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Haunted

The ghosts of Victoria

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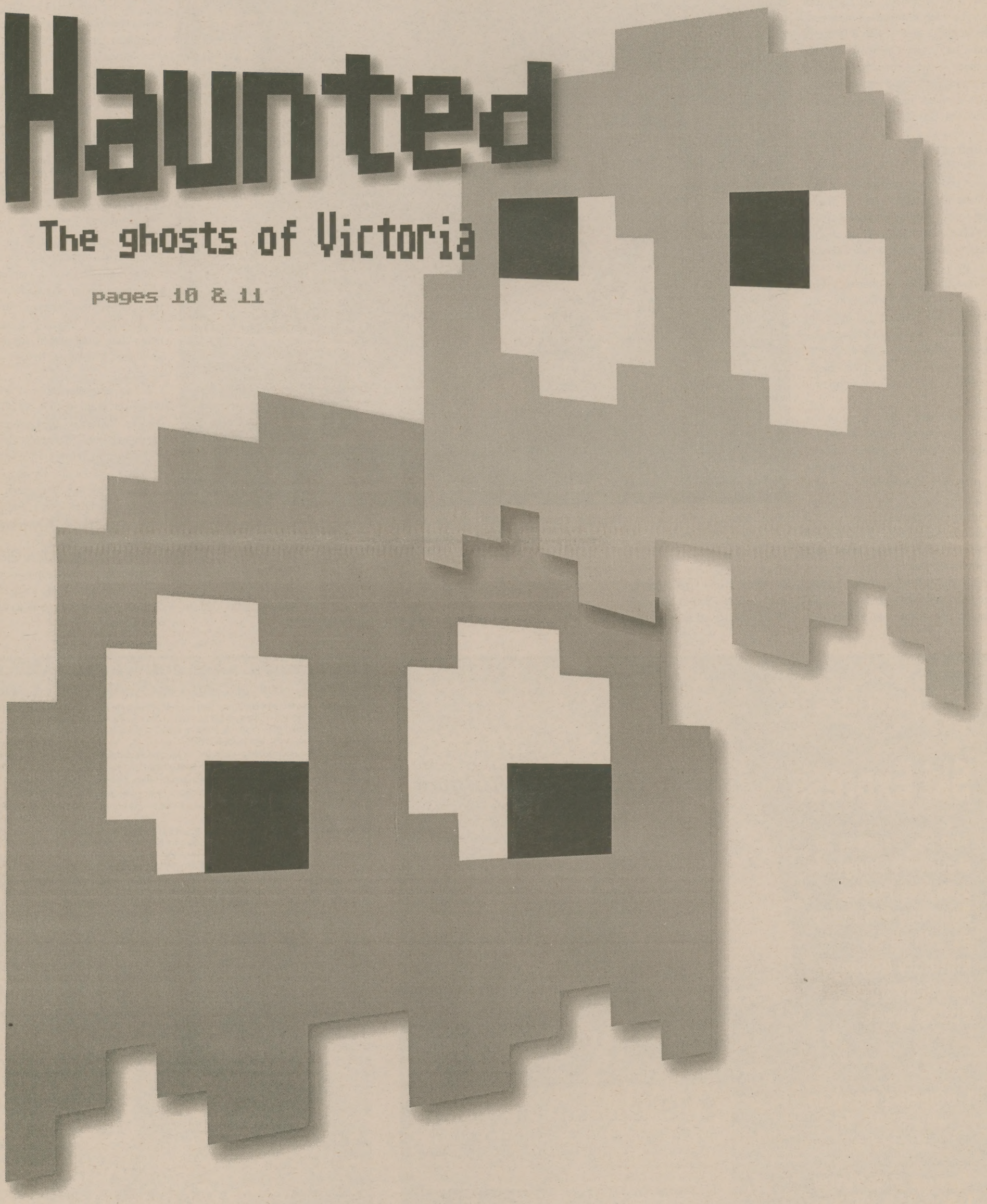

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Concerned citizens discuss wet shelters

Jeff Bray, Victoria-Beacon Hill MLA, organizes community forum on shelter for the city's drinking homeless

BY PATRICK WHITE

At the corner of Pandora and Douglas several homeless men huddle around a bench with a bottle of booze hidden by a brown paper bag. A block away, a town hall meeting discusses where the city's drinking street-dwellers might sleep tonight.

Victoria–Beacon Hill MLA Jeff Bray organized the Jan. 15 town hall to discuss the idea of creating a wet shelter where homeless chronic alcoholics could bed down even if they possess alcohol. At present, visibly drunk people are refused a bed at the city's homeless shelters. Most end up sleeping outside or in a police station.

A panel made up of Victoria Councillor Chris Coleman, John Green of the Victoria Cool Aid Society and Chris Schmidt of Downtown Housing Outreach listened to what the roughly 40 people in attendance at the Downtown Activity Centre had to say on the matter.

The discussion often veered off on questions concerning the more general issues of income assistance under the Campbell government and social housing, but unanimous support was voiced for the idea of creating a wet shelter in Victoria.

Georgia-Sue Allen, a retired mental health worker at the discussion, said "We're looking at a hardcore group of people who will never stop drinking. They are very hard to help. These people don't want to move anywhere else. They want to stay right here and they deserve a bed to sleep in."

NIC HUME PHOTO

Chris Schmidt, of Downtown Housing Outreach, speaks on a panel organized by Victoria–Beacon Hill MLA Jeff Bray (background) to address the shelter needs for the city's drinking homeless.

Many of the other speakers at the discussion reiterated Allen's sentiments.

"This city now has a policy of detox or die. We need a no-fault shelter," said Patricia Hodgkins, who lives on income assistance.

One speaker, John Cowan, agreed that a wet shelter is needed in the city, but he added that creating more beds will not fix the problems of homelessness and drug abuse afflicting downtown Victoria. "We've talked about helping these people out, but what about personal responsibility? Police and social workers have to crack down. Drug usage is a growth industry in this town, and it has got to stop," said Cowan.

Coleman admitted that a wet shelter was not going to solve all the city's problems.

"I see we should address not just wet housing but also all of the issues raised here tonight."

Bray said he would present the ideas brought up at the meeting to the appropriate cabinet ministers in his government, and that he was confident they would listen, despite the provincial government's cuts to social services.

"I had a good response when I raised the issue in October. George Abbott [Minister of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services] and Gordon Hogg [Minister of Children and Family Development] were receptive to it as concept. They see the benefit of this moving forward," said Bray in an interview following the meeting.

"From here we need to create a community proposal that addresses the question brought up tonight concerning size, staffing and location," Bray added.

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Keith Martin: Independent, but not for long

by Richard Warnica

Keith Martin is young, well dressed and handsome.

The independent Member of Parliament is adored by his constituents and well known across the country. He has a reputation as an iron-clad fiscal conservative, but is a social moderate.

In a political world where having an actual opinion on a policy issue is almost unheard of, Martin is the exception. In ten years as the Reform/Alliance MP for Esquimalt-Juan de Fuca, Martin has made his name by very publicly detailing his solutions for health care, illicit drugs, foreign policy and democratic reform. Martin is exactly the type of MP the new Conservative Party needed if it hoped to become a serious alternative to the governing Liberals.

But it wasn't meant to be. Last week Martin abandoned the new party to sit as an independent. He also plans to run in the next election as a Liberal.

Martin spent the weekend after his announcement being torn apart by the press. Moe Sihota, host of the New VI's Talk TV show, called Martin's actions "the type of thing that gives politics and politicians a bad name." The *Globe and Mail* editorial following Martin's announcement to leap commented, "Keith Martin's decision to defect from the new Conservative Party of Canada leaves troubling questions about his motives and about the future of the merged federal party he worked to create."

Yet when Martin strode into his office on Monday morning he showed no ill effects from the weekend of media attacks. Ten minutes late for our interview, he paused for only the briefest smile to his assistant before bearing down, hand extended and mouth split in an enthusiastic yet stoically professional grin to introduce himself.

When Martin got into politics ten years ago, he was as an outsider. As a medical doctor in a world of professional politicians he was someone who had a fresh take beyond the bickering of Ottawa bureaucrats.

Martin may still be a medical doctor, but he has honed his skills as a professional politician. If he had been selling snake oil, I would have bought it.

Like another Martin, Prime Minister Paul Martin, Dr. Keith Martin has a habit of avoiding straight answers.

"Let's make this very clear," he said in response to a question on private sector involvement in the health care system. "Privatizing our public system is a reflection in the discrepancy in the supply and demand in our health care system"

All of Martin's answers ring of perfectly orchestrated sound bites. His voice throughout the interview had the exact right mix of outrage, concern and friendliness.

As our conversation wound on Martin steered it towards his reasons for abandoning the party he called home for ten years.

By defecting, Martin joined a growing chorus of moderate "small c" conservatives whose discomfort with the social policy of the Conservatives has led them away from the supposedly united Progressive Conservative/Alliance alternative. Scott Brison, Andre Bachand, Joe Clark, Scott Heron and now Keith Martin, have all abandoned a party with no leader, over social policies that it has yet to articulate. But for Martin it was only a matter of time before the new party reaffirmed the policies of the old.

"I've been in the system, the Reform/Alliance/Conservative party for ten years and I have a good sense of the where the core of the party was, is, and where it is going," he said "The party is happiest when it defines itself as socially conservative–the caucus is happiest, the party is happiest and that's okay, but I am not a social conservative."

Another issue Martin is outspoken about is democratic reform. Yet he expressed no concerns about the vast amounts of money his would-be boss, Prime Minister Martin, raised in his campaign for office.

Richard Warnica photo

Former Reform/Alliance MP Keith Martin is presently an Independent and plans to be a Liberal.

"To suggest that…it's the corporate world somehow putting up their person against the will of the people is frankly absurd" he said, adding "If a person has 13 times more money [than any other candidate] then that is reflective of the democratic will of the people."

Martin made it clear that one of his reasons for joining the Liberals was to have a chance to influence policy more closely. But he claimed to have no designs on a seat in cabinet "It may be distinctively advantageous to sit in the backbench," he said.

With Environment Minister and Victoria MP David Anderson possibly retiring in the near future, it's hard to imagine Martin staying out of cabinet for long.

As the interview wound down and Martin prepared to be photographed, his genial smile vanished and hardened into a look of concerned seriousness. Martin drew back his shoulders, stuck his chest out and gazed out across his body, resembling an odd mix between fashion model and supreme court judge.

Dr. Keith Martin, M.D., MP, once Canada's most famous political maverick, has left the outskirts and finally joined the game.

TAs and UVic reach tentative agreement

by Bryna Hallam

UVic and CUPE 4163 resumed negotiations on Jan. 12 after a day of job action by TAs and their supporters. A tentative deal was struck late Jan. 13 with the help of mediator Grant McArthur.

Both sides are encouraging their members to accept the terms of the contract. The union is holding a vote by secret ballot, with the results to be released on Jan. 22.

The agreement must also be ratified by the UVic Board of Governors and approved by the B.C. government's Public Sector Employers Council (PSEC) before it is implemented.

According to internal union documents obtained by *the Martlet*, UVic did not propose a wage increase for TAs, but did offer a Graduate Teaching Assistant Fellowship (GTAF).

The GTAF gives graduate student TAs a maximum of $275 per term the first year, $550 the second, and $825 the third, depending on the number of hours worked. This amounts to approximately a 23 per cent increase in compensation. The GTAF would be available to each individual two times per year, but only to graduate students.

Despite having wage parity with other schools–and being paid up to $5 per hour more in some cases–undergraduate TAs have also been offered a fellowship, giving them a compensation increase of nine per cent.

Non-student TAs were not offered anything in terms of wage hikes. However, members who are eligible for the pension plan will receive a 1.28 per cent wage increase to offset increased pension contributions.

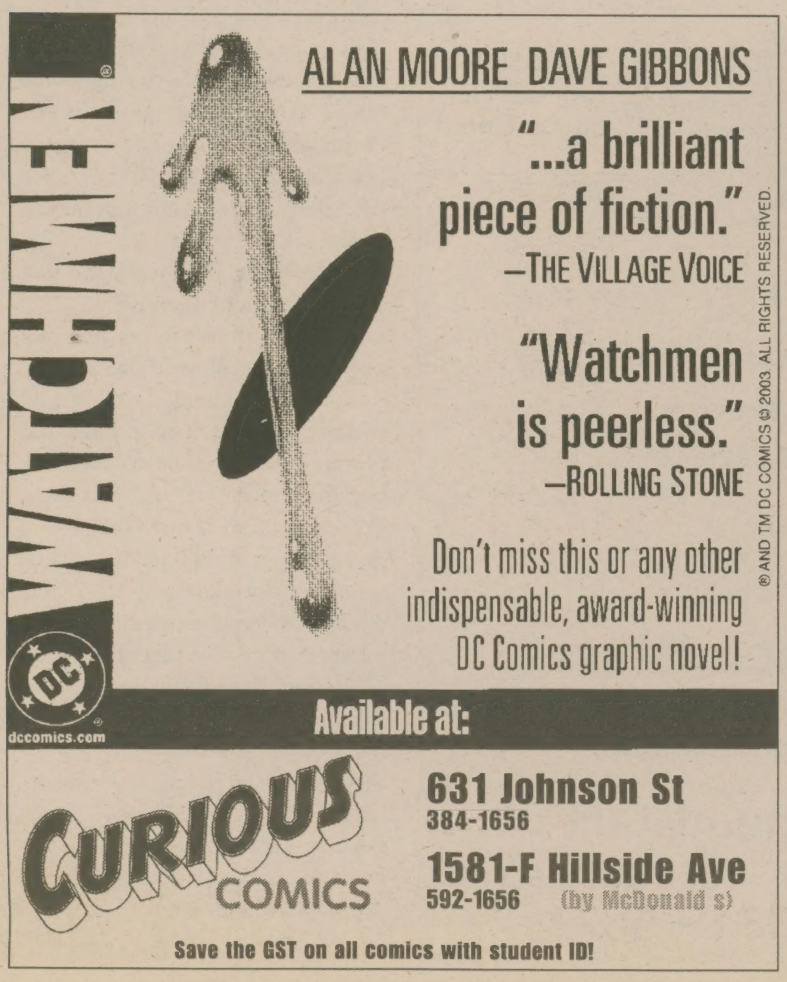
The proposed agreement does not offer union members any changes in tuition, paid parental leave, or paid sick leave for employees working half time or less.

Despite the lack of a wage increases, and the failure of the university to offer anything on tuition, the union's bargaining team is encouraging members to accept the contract. "We believe that it is the best contract we can achieve without taking on the B.C. government," said the union in its documents.

UVic tabled a similar fellowship earlier in negotiations as an alternative to wage increases. This offer represented the equivalent of a 21 per cent increase in compensation to TAs. It was rejected by the union.

UVic officials have said they are required to follow provincial government guidelines restricting general wage increases in the public sector and as a result are unable to offer TAs a wage increase.

Members of CUPE 4163, which also includes second language instructors and computer lab assistants, have been without a contract since August 2003.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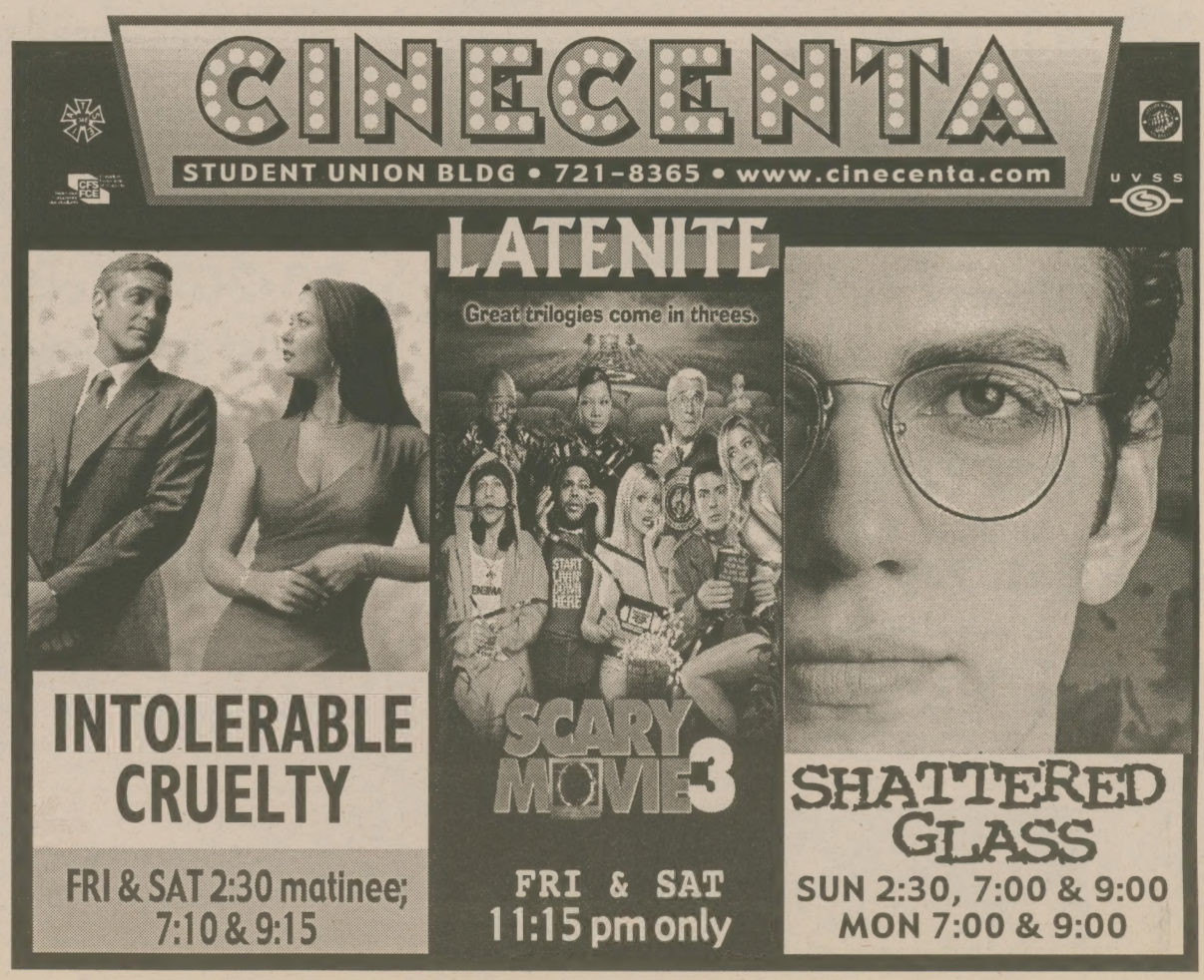

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PROVIDED PHOTO

Melissa Edwards (right) and her godmother Cecily Quinn, who died of cancer last month. In May, Edwards plans to walk from Port Hardy to Victoria to raise money for cancer research.

UVic student puts feet forward to battle cancer

BY SARAH PETRESCU

The dreaded first class of the semester icebreaker usually exposes mundane details about students' holidays, hometowns and ambiguous plans for the future. But when it's Melissa Edwards' moment of introduction, her morsel of holiday happenings has the rest of the class in silent awe.

Edwards, a Victoria native and third-year education student at UVic, spent her holiday coordinating a New Year's benefit to raise money for cancer research.

With the help of her friends, Edwards raised $3,000. She had previously raised $2,500 at a basketball camp for kids and plans to raise more when she walks from Port Hardy to Victoria this May. The campaign is called "Journey of Hope," and Edwards hopes to raise awareness as well as cash.

"I was watching everyone around me be affected by this disease. It got to the point where I had to do something," said Edwards.

She is not the usual suspect for a community do-gooder. The quiet 22-year-old Edwards blends well into the campus setting, often wearing sweats and bunching her long brown hair into a ponytail. She shies from talk about moonlighting as a philanthropist and makes sure she does not take sole credit.

"My godmother, Cecily, was a big inspiration for me," said Edwards. "She was a really amazing woman."

Cecily Quinn was also Edwards' close friend. Quinn was diagnosed with a rare form of pancreatic cancer in October, 2002 and died this past December. Edwards visited her regularly and sat by her side during chemotherapy treatments. The pair would often go for long walks, something Edwards' said characterized Quinn. "She always wanted to be outside walking around. Cecily loved this island, she loved nature."

It was Quinn's love of Vancouver Island that prompted Edwards' idea to walk for cancer. "At first I wanted to walk across Canada. Everyone thought I was crazy," said Edwards. "Then I went to the B.C. Cancer Agency and they gave me the idea of starting smaller, so I decided to walk across the Island."

On May 22, Edwards will hit the road in Port Hardy and, if all goes according to plan, arrive in Victoria two weeks and 560 km later.

"I know I'm not going to cure cancer, but I have to feel like I am doing something for a cause," said Edwards. "I already have lots of friends who are helping to organize the event and some who are planning to walk with me."

Edwards has had lots of support. Her friends, sister and former basketball teammates have helped and rallied with her at every event. "Sometimes I think I'm over my head, but then I have all these people telling me to go for it and I just jump back in," she said.

Aimee Faulk, a third-year history student, is one of those friends.

She met Edwards in her first year playing basketball at UVic. "I'd seen her at tournaments and always thought she was a good basketball player. When I came to UVic we became bench buddies," said Faulk. "When I think about what she is doing, it is so inspiring. You always hear about people doing things, but when it is someone close to you it makes it more meaningful."

"I'm just a normal person," said Edwards. "It seems like everyone these days has someone in their life that has cancer, or has died [from it]. That's why I do this. Cecily always believed I could do anything I wanted to. I know she will be with me on the walk across the Island."

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News briefs

Victoria high school student takes on software developer

Seventeen-year-old Victoria high school student Mike Rowe is soliciting donations on his website to take on Microsoft.

Three months after registering the domain name mikerowesoft.com, Rowe received an e-mail from Microsoft's lawyers, asking him to transfer the domain name to Microsoft. They offered to pay him a settlement of $10, the cost of his original registration fee.

Microsoft admits they may have been too aggressive in the matter and are considering a more mutually-agreeable settlement.

Winston Churchill's parrot is alive

Winston Churchill's prized parrot Charlie is still alive, and she still hates Hitler.

Her favourite sayings were "Fuck Hitler" and "Fuck the Nazis." And even today, 39 years after the wartime leader's death, she can still be coaxed into repeating them with that unmistakable Churchillian inflection.

At 104 years old, Charlie is believed to be Britain's oldest bird.

Small-time Canadian farmer fights Monsanto

A small-time farmer taking on agribusiness colossus Monsanto in Canada's highest court hopes to stall the global biotech revolution of agriculture.

Monsanto Co. sued farmer Percy Schmeiser after its agents found biotech canola growing in his fields in 1997. Monsanto contends that Schmeiser replanted seeds from the biotech canolas without paying a $12 an acre fee.

Schmeiser insists that the Monsanto canola originated from a neighbour's farm and blew on to his 1,400-acre section.

The 73-year-old farmer also contends that the Monsanto canola contaminated his own crops and destroyed his livelihood.

The Canadian justices will hold three hours of arguments Tuesday, and rule in several months.

Activist groups have been lobbying on behalf of Schmeiser for months. A decision against Monstanto would be a tremendous victory for global opposition against biotech agriculture.

Clarification:

In last week's article "Scrapped bill no great victory yet for First Nations," Patrick Brazeau said, "Whether we'll work with the Martin government, is at this point, a grey area." For clarification, Mr. Brazeau says the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples will work with the Martin government on behalf of aboriginals living off-reserve, but are awaiting specifics of Martin's agenda, to be announced at his Speech from the Throne on Feb. 2.

"Whatever issues the Martin government will address is a grey area, but CAP will work with the government to ensure the off-reserve Aboriginal voice is heard. But he's already said he plans to include urban aboriginals in planning so we're hopeful," said Brazeau.

Government woos tech industry

BY NORMAN ED BASKERVILLE

UVic students studying engineering, computer science and other technology-based disciplines rejoice–you may actually find a job after graduation.

The B.C. government has announced they will spend $8.3 million over the next three years to pitch the merits of the province's tech industry to international markets. "British Columbia's technology industry has all the elements to become a global technology destination," said Premier Gordon Campbell.

The province's technology industry is growing, according to most indicators. BC Biotech, a not-for-profit industry association, claims the technology sector outperforms all other

PROVIDED PHOTO

Premier Campbell announces the formation of Leading Edge B.C.

B.C. industries in terms of combined Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and employment. Every $1 million made by the technology sector creates 12 jobs and contributes $600,000 to the provincial GDP.

In the past 10 years employment in B.C.'s technology sector has increased by 68 per cent compared to 22 per cent for the economy as a whole.

The $2.78 million in annual funding will finance the newly formed agency Leading Edge British Columbia. Leading Edge is a new partnership between the government and the technology industry. Premier Campbell said that it has been a recognized concern within the technology industry that B.C.'s technology expertise is not promoted aggressively enough to international markets and investors.

Statistics Canada predicts capital investment in B.C. will rise by 7.6 per cent in 2004. Despite this figure, a survey conducted by the BC Technology Industries Association reveals that 82 per cent of B.C.'s technology CEOs report that raising investment capital remains their major economic concern.

The Liberals are promoting B.C. as a competitive location for technology investment, research and job creation, and developing skilled tech workers.

The provincial government has vowed to double the number of technology graduates in the next five years.

"It's vital that we give international customers the facts about the tax, regulatory and training changes we've made to open up B.C.," said Campbell.

Leading Edge claims that compared to California, B.C. companies pay 17 per cent less taxes on software development, 23 per cent less on electronics manufacturing, and 54 per cent less on biotech research and development.

SFU considers gender neutral washrooms

BY STEPHEN HUI (CUP)

Washrooms designed specifically to be inclusive to transgender persons could be on their way to Simon Fraser University.

A group of students is researching the issue, and they say they have the support of university administrators. Their goal: to install single-stall, gender-neutral washrooms on every floor of every building on campus.

Said Louis Julig, a transgender student and executive member of the Simon Fraser Student Society, "The reason that we're getting these washrooms is to have a gender-neutral space for those who are intersex, transgender, or gender queer to use safely without any discrimination."

Julig is a member of the so-called bathroom committee, which is gathering information and feedback from students about the proposed washrooms. If they are built, the student union executive said, the university would become the first in Canada to install gender-neutral washrooms.

The bathroom committee is recommending that the facilities be identified by the word "washroom," rather than any pictogram. One residence on campus already has gender-neutral washrooms labelled as such.

"We talked about having the man and the woman symbol–like, both of them," Julig said. "But it doesn't really get at the binary-ness of the issue."

The student union executive said they have the support of Brenda Taylor, the university's human rights coordinator, and John Waterhouse, vice president of academics.

Both Taylor and Waterhouse declined to comment for this story.

Julig credits Taylor with providing students with the option to choose an "other" checkbox when revealing their gender on registration forms. Taylor has also set up a meeting to discuss installing a family change-room in the gym, according to Julig.

"It's kind of exciting for such a traditionally oppressed group to receive respect and recognition, and the human rights it deserves," Julig said.

Tami Starlight, a gender identity and addictions counsellor in Vancouver, agrees. Starlight says gender-neutral washrooms helped her get through her gender transition.

"I am tickled pink to almost giggling because it's a great thing that these things can happen," said Starlight.

Although Julig isn't sure how long it will take to make gender-neutral washrooms a reality at the university, the student union executive is optimistic.

"I think I'll get to use one," Julig said.

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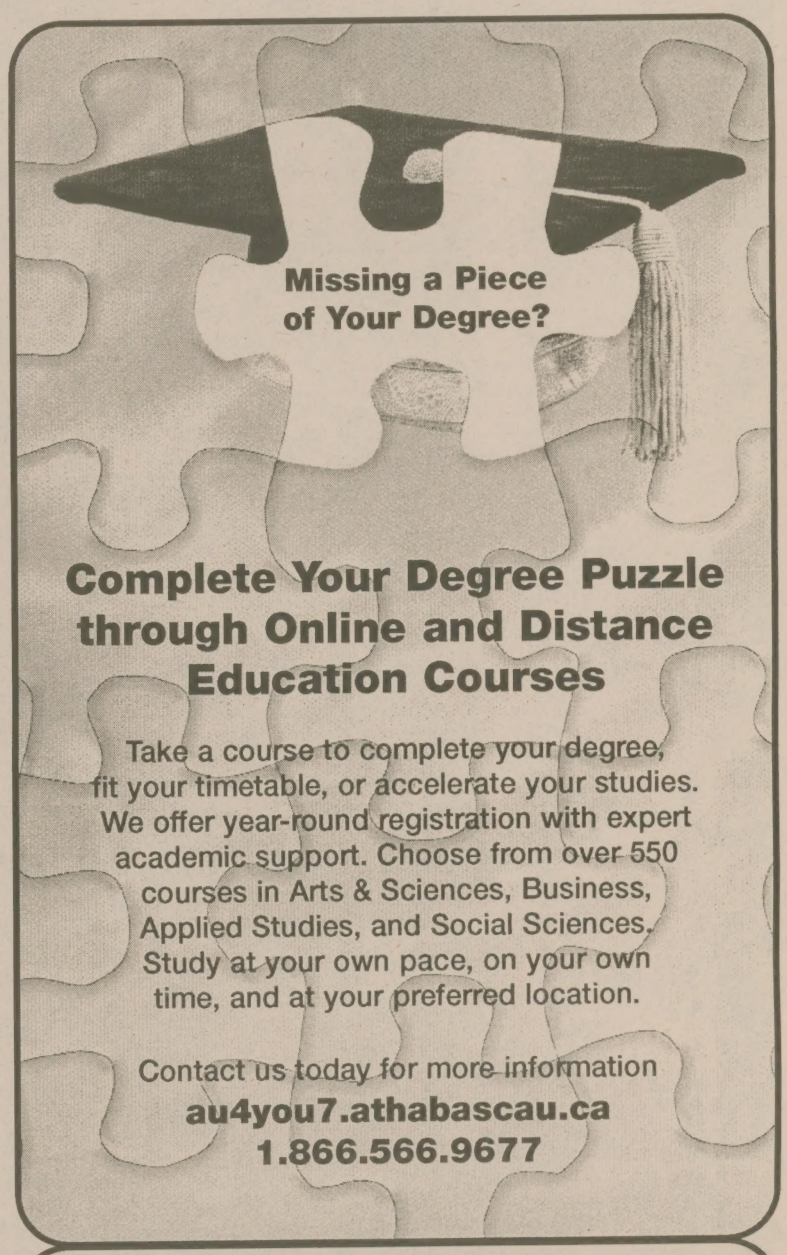

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Paper waste alarms student senator

Students' Society to push for stricter recycling at UVic

BY JOHN THOMPSON

Dave Holmes knew that being a student senator involved paper shuffling, but he says he was astounded by the size of a docket that arrived last Wednesday.

"There was 1,200 sheets, all single-sided, for this senate committee that'd meet in two hours and would never meet again," said Holmes, a computer science student who sits on the curriculum committee.

"That's a lot of paper. It's also a lot of money."

If 19 senators received that amount of paper, it'd work out to about 22,800 sheets.

At seven cents a page, that's $1,600, which Holmes points out is the equivalent to the cost of taking four classes at UVic.

"It's in the order of someone's tuition for a semester," he said.

Holmes arrived at the meeting with two blue recycling bins, which he filled with "a mountain of paper" when the meeting ended three and a half hours later. He planned to turn the documents into one-sided notebooks, but he was later told he couldn't because of the "semi-confidential" nature of the information.

Reg Mitchell, a chemistry professor who chairs the committee, says the documents arrived far later than usual because the person responsible for copying them was sick.

Every year the committee faces the unenviable task of compiling all the proposed curriculum changes from every department, then checking which changes affect other departments to avoid conflicts. Committee members usually receive the papers before the winter break to review them, he said.

Mitchell added the papers aren't usually single-sided, but were probably printed that way this year to save time. From his experience in the classroom, Mitchell said printing on both sides can be tedious.

"Often the bloody copier breaks down," he said.

Holmes would like senators to have the choice of opting out of receiving paper. Student senators often meet together to pool their resources before meetings, so individual copies of everything are unnecessary, he said.

University Secretary Sheila Sheldon Collyer said that Holmes' efforts to recycle the committee papers were well-intentioned but misguided.

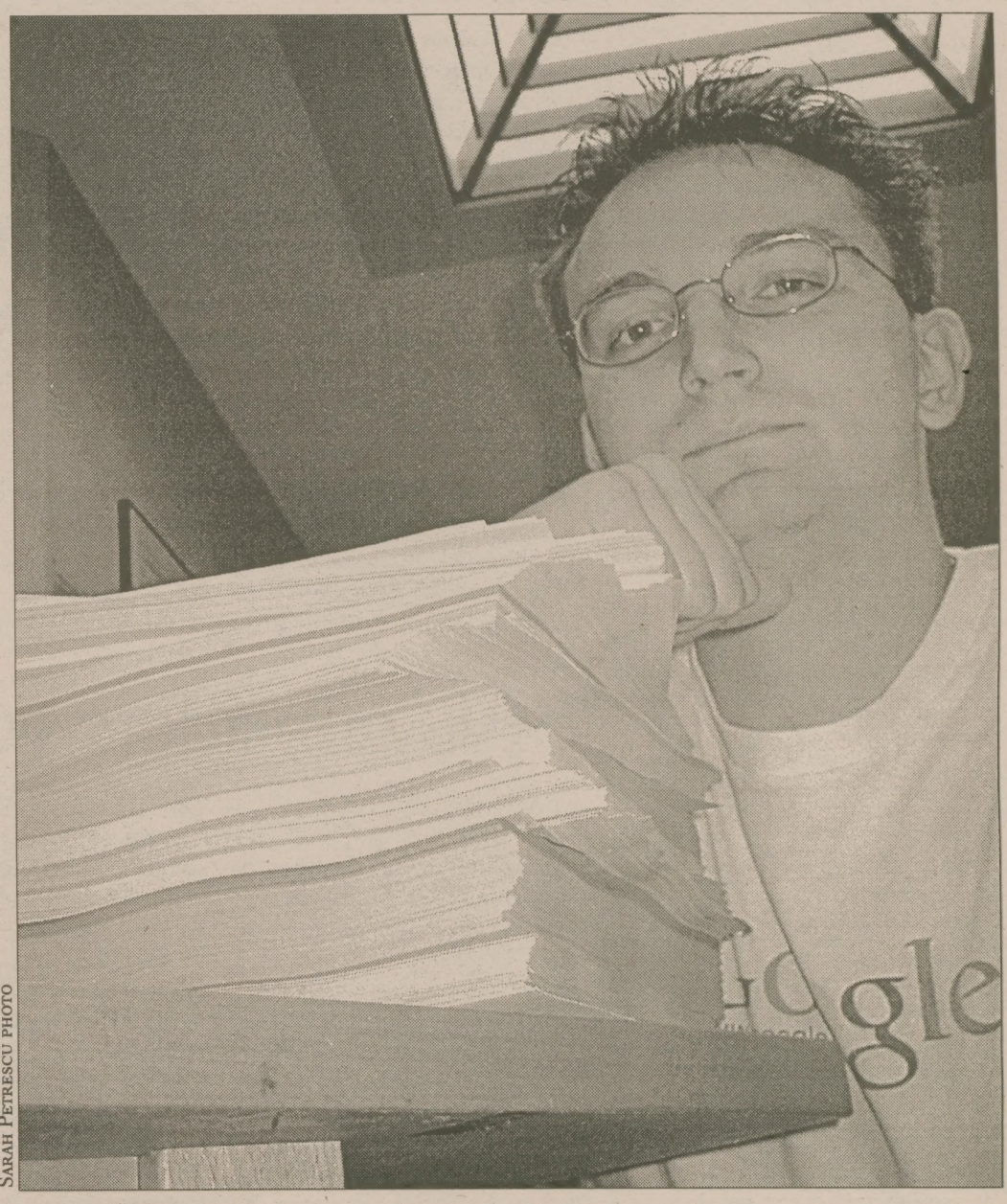
"We reuse all our paper, including confidential papers," she said, explaining that all confidential papers are shredded first, then sent to a recycling plant.

"Yes, we should be recycling paper. We don't throw paper out."

She added that UVic is working towards putting all the curriculum changes online, rather than printing out the documents every year.

"My concern with a digital solution is downloading the cost to senate members," she said, explaining that senators would then have to pick up the printing costs themselves.

Jude Coates and Erik Haensel, both student senators as well as executives of the Students' Society, plan to introduce a motion at the next Senate meeting calling for stricter recycling policies at the university.



SARAH PETRESCU PHOTO

The UVic senate curriculum committee gave student senator Dave Holmes a mountain of single-sided pages and about two hours to review them.

Image from "Empowerment" by Butch Dick, Grad 2003 Legacy Project

Call for proposals for the

GRAD CLASS LEGACY PROJECT

The University of Victoria Graduating Class of 2004 extends an invitation to all students, on-campus organisations and departments to submit design proposals for its 2004 Legacy Project. Selection criteria include; student focus, artistic substance, interaction, functionality and lasting presence on campus. The proposals should attempt to reflect the Graduating Class' interest in encouraging students to participate academically, socially and politically in the campus community.

Applications must include:
- a brief outline of the mandate of your organisation or group
- a 250 word description of the specific project and goals
- a budget which details all funding sources
- your contact information

All proposals should be addressed to:
University of Victoria Grad Class 2004
c/o Miko Ross
Student Union Building
University of Victoria
P.O. Box 3035
Victoria, BC
V8W 3P3

Proposals accepted until 4:30 Friday, February 27, 2004

Proposals may be dropped off at the SUB General Office.
For more information please contact Miko Ross at 721-8368.

Cracks in building no cause for concern

Is UVic ready for the Big One?

BY MICHELLE MARTIN

"This is scary stuff," says University of Victoria English Professor Michael Cullen as he scrutinizes an eight-foot long, jagged horizontal crack with a half-inch overhang in a cement wall only a few yards from his third-floor office. "This is supposed to be one wall," he says. "It looks like the horizontal cement column has shifted."

Cullen first noticed this fracture in UVic's Clearihue building after Nisqually, an earthquake with an epicentre near Seattle shook UVic's campus on February 28, 2001.

Between 250 and 300 small earthquakes rattle Vancouver Island and southwestern B.C. every year, although most go unfelt, says Dr. John Cassidy, a research scientist for Human Resources Canada. "We have seen earthquakes capable of causing damage about once every decade," he says.

Many university officials say these unsightly cracks are no cause for concern. "Cracks are often in buildings," says Dean Goard, Special Advisor to the Vice-President Finance and Operations. "It is most unlikely that the level of earthquake we had [in 2001] caused structural damage." He does not recall any damage to Clearihue in the aftermath of Nisqually.

Facilities Management is the university department responsible for dealing with cracks. Dino Valeri is the projects manager whose section looks after renovations and infrastructure improvements. Valeri explains cracks in a way that reduces their significance. "We can see cracking at the time of an earthquake, but not all cracks are serious…[Plus,] unless you have a quantifiable record of what it looked like before, you can't say what caused it to look that way now." He, too, does not recall the crack in Clearihue and does not know whether that one got reported.

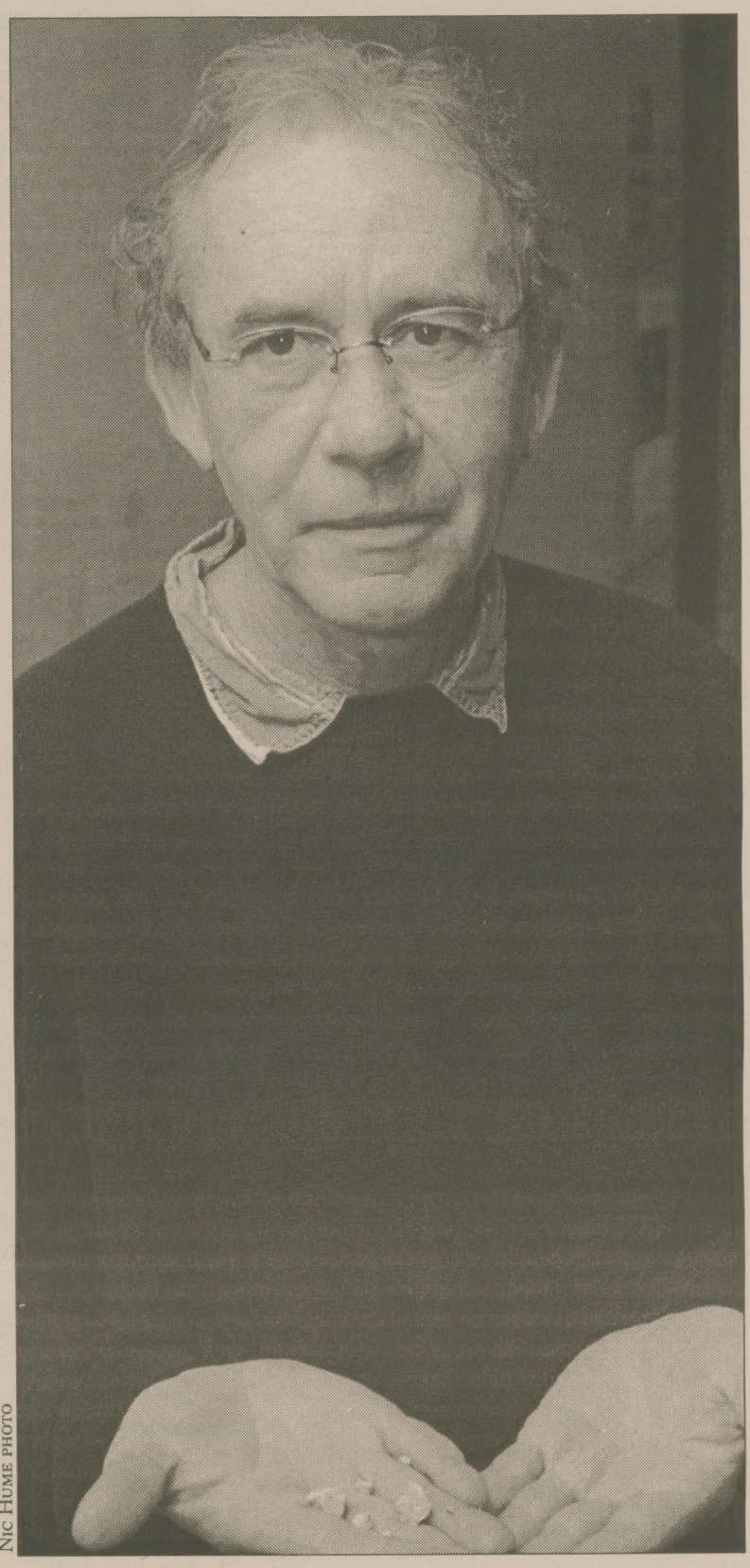
Emergency preparedness could pay off when the "big one" hits, a colossal offshore earthquake that scientists expect will leave Victoria in ruins. In the local documentary film *Emergency Preparedness: Get Ready for the Big One at One*, community officials agree that a massive earthquake occurring along the coastline from Vancouver Island to Northern California could potentially bring down many bridges and overpasses, cut off and contaminate water supplies and topple brick buildings. It would leave many of Victoria's emergency services immobile, unable to aid the community in need.

"It could be one of the largest earthquakes in recorded history," says Cassidy, who says the earthquake could have a magnitude of nine on the Richter scale, a strength also known as a "megathrust." "The difference between a nine and a seven is not so much the strength, but the duration. A nine would have several minutes of strong ground shaking, instead of around 20 seconds for an eight."

"The megathrust earthquake is the largest but the rarest," said Cassidy. He says he is sure one will happen but can only guess when. "We know on average they occur every 500 to 600 years. But they occur at irregular intervals….The periods of these range from 200 to over a thousand years."

Cassidy's research suggests that the last megathrust earthquake occurred on January 26, 1700, just over 300 years ago. This date was determined from analysis of geological evidence, as well as from witnesses accounts. "The First Nations people have oral stories that tie in very well with our prediction of the last earthquake, which speak of strong shaking and a tsunami that drowned coastal villages…we know this is true because there are records of a tsunami in Japan.

"What we see right now by monitoring crustal rocks is that the region is being squeezed. [Also], the west coast of Vancouver Island is rising several millimetres every year. These measurements indicate that the plates are locked in place and storing energy for a future megathrust earthquake," says Cassidy.



NIC HUME PHOTO

English professor Michael Cullen holds cement chips that fell from a jagged crack in the Clearihue building.

The earthquake hazard research Cassidy conducts at the Pacific Geoscience Centre in Sidney influences the safety of UVic's buildings. Cassidy says that the National Building Code of Canada uses his findings, so engineers have the information they need to design structures to withstand ground movement.

Valeri is one such engineer. He oversees much of the construction and upgrading done to buildings at UVic. As seismic standards increase over the years, so does the strictness of building design codes. Older buildings on campus like Clearihue and Cornett have been buttressed with reinforced concrete to keep them up to code.

Valeri, with the assistance of other Facilities Management personnel, plays an active role in assessing damage caused from moderately destructive earthquakes such as Nisqually.

"[After Nisqually] we fielded phone calls from anyone who may have observed damage….We have a structural engineering firm that came out and looked at significant cracks," says Valeri.

Valeri sees the major problem being that Facilities Management does not have the budget to fix the buildings. Also, since the university is an "active organism," Facilities Management cannot vacate buildings in order to do their work.

Goard was hired just over two years ago to develop emergency and safety procedures for the "active organism." He convinced the university to adopt the British Columbia Emergency Response Management System (BCERMS) as a standard protocol for dealing with emergencies and is now adapting the system to UVic. BCERMS uses a standard communications system that can be molded to apply to many emergencies, from fires and mysterious packages to earthquakes.

"Duck, cover, and hold for 60 seconds," says Goard about what students should do in the event of an earthquake. No one should immediately evacuate the building. Instead, wait until the shaking subsides. In the case of a megathrust earthquake, Goard says that it is important to have enough food and water to survive for at least 72 hours.

"If the megathrust hits, I don't know if anyone is really prepared," said Goard. "You're on your own for sure…it is so large that we are going to be trying to survive."

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EDITORIAL

FDR haunts Black

Conrad Black had the weekend from hell.

His media empire sued him, dumped him and threatened to block a sale that would have profited Black, the Lord of Crossharbour, $600 million.

While media tycoon Black praises Franklin Delano Roosevelt, former U.S. president, for being the saviour of capitalism in his latest book, what Lord Black needs now is a saviour for his own deceitful brand of capitalism.

Black's capitalist characterization of F.D.R. may come as a shock to some readers. After all, F.D.R. is widely considered to be the father of social democracy in the U.S. His social spending kept America's head barely above water during the Great Depression.

But, much to the chagrin of socialist ideologues, Black has a point. It was F.D.R. who shaped up the American securities trading and banking systems to restore the confidence Americans had in their financial system, a system they had seen crash and devastate the entire country. The cause of the crash was an orgy of over-speculation in financial markets fuelled by the invention of credit and the failure of corporations to fully disclose financial information to investors.

F.D.R's "New Deal" required companies to fully disclose information concerning any stocks they were selling and created the Securities and Exchange Commission to regulate the stock market. F.D.R. said of the measures: "It puts the burden of telling the whole truth on the seller. It should give impetus to honest dealing in securities and bring back public confidence." But honest dealings were never Black's strong suit. That's why these vestiges of Roosevelt's administration have come to haunt him.

Black was ousted from his company and stands accused of using "sham" accounting to divert corporate assets to himself and other Hollinger executives, according to a $200 million US lawsuit the company has filed against him. Black's unscrupulous dealings were such that his management of Chicago-based Hollinger International is under investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission, who may intervene in his sale of Hollinger International's parent company.

Lord Black has been deservedly screwed by his own idol. He deserves no pity. If only he had taken a page from his own book, he could have avoided the wrath of his business and literary subjects.

Keith Martin– Party hopper

Keith Martin a federal Liberal? With all the media hype surrounding the announcement, people seem to have forgotten an important question: has Martin changed, or the Liberals?

The truth is Martin was always a bit out of step with the Reform and the Canadian Alliance parties. The Martins, Keith and Paul, are both what 10 years ago we would have called progressive conservative, fiscally conservative, socially moderate.

The odd thing about Martin isn't his jump from the newly united Conservative Party of Canada to the Liberals. It's the fact that he was there in the first place. Martin always expressed ideas that were out of step with conventional Reform/Alliance dogma.

However, Martin is no dummy and knew that he would never have been elected as a Liberal in Esquimalt-Juan De Fuca when he first ran in 1993. Under Paul Martin, the good doctor sees a chance not only to get elected, but also to sit with the government, and try to introduce some of those wacky ideas he's been spouting for the last ten years.

What's of concern isn't the political musical chairs that Martin is playing but what the Liberal move to the right means. With the governing party now centre-right and the opposition far-right, there is no party occupying the territory that most Canadians have traditionally identified with, the centre-left.

And with the "new-look" Liberals set to win another federal election, who better to be the minister of health than a doctor, especially one that's been advocating for two-tier health care for years?

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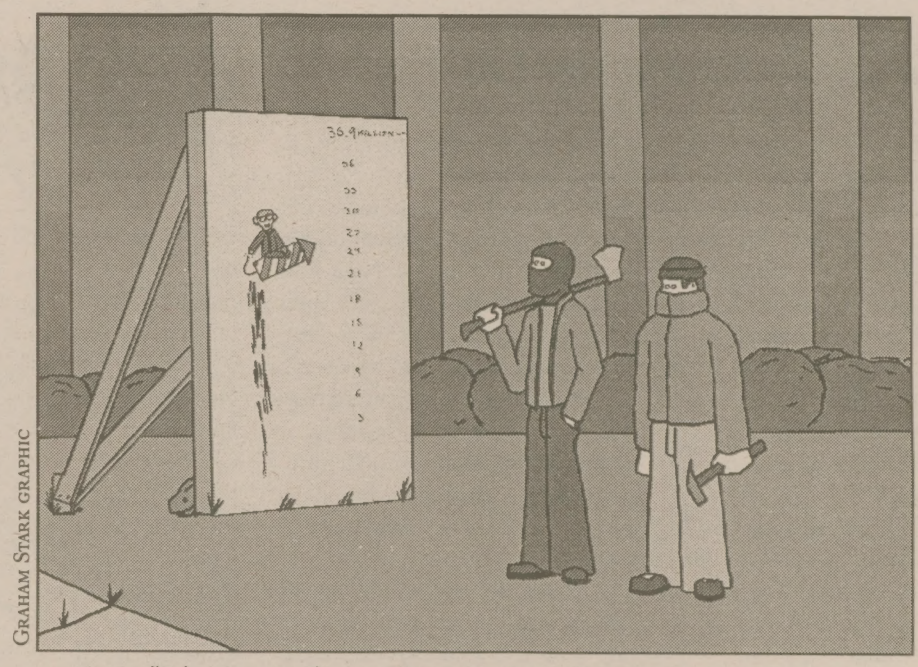

GRAHAM STARK GRAPHIC

"It's not that I'm pro-Liberal, I just don't understand the sign."

Humanities or womanities?

BY JENNIFER MCFEE

In 1991, the University of Victoria founded Science Venture, a non-profit, student-run program designed to get kids interested in science and engineering. One branch of this program, the Girls Science Club, teaches its members that science is fun and not just for boys. The girls gain enough confidence to follow their passions anywhere, even into formerly male-dominated fields. However, one problem remains on the flip side of the Bunsen burner– boys aren't in arts and nobody cares.

Boys aren't encouraged to go into the arts because it is seen as a devalued, feminized form of education. At the same time, parents and educators push girls towards traditionally male fields of study. The double standard still exists–value is determined by a masculine sliding scale.

In my high school, an advanced math teacher took a poll of what we planned to study at university. Most of the class opted for science. A few more wanted to become engineers. But when the teacher asked, with a smirk, if anyone was going into arts, the whole class laughed. My teacher devalued art before a roomful of impressionable students. As a result, I felt ashamed of my aesthetic interests. I wasted two long years studying science at the University of Winnipeg, bored and frustrated. I finally followed in the footsteps of a brave male friend who made the transition from Engineering to English.

An 1877 Royal Commissioner denigrated the study of English in particular, saying that it is a suitable subject "for women and second- and third-rate men." Over a century later, we still embrace this outdated mode of thought. While the education system encourages girls to explore formerly masculine fields, boys are not similarly pushed to pursue emasculated artistic expression. Where is the balance?

According to UVic's 2003 enrollment reports, only 30 per cent of fine arts students and 35 per cent of humanities students are male. As an arts student, I notice this gender disparity every day. Most of my classes have only one or two male students. Other classes are entirely female, including the professor. Male voices are startlingly rare. Because of this inequality, my sky-high tuition dollars only buy me a one-sided education. I'm always missing half the story.

On the other hand, UVic's Science Department is equally represented by both genders. In fact, 56 per cent of the science students this year are women. Yet, the department has organizations like WISE, or Women in Science and Engineering, designed to support and encourage female faculty, staff and students. In the Arts Department, there are no similar networks for the vast minority of male students. Something is askew.

Forget this gendered value system. It is outdated and limits forward movement. Students need to follow inner passion, not outer pressure. All areas of study need to be equally accessible and appealing to both sexes. Fuck the stereotypes. Let's throw open the doors of Clearihue classrooms and bring in the boys!

LETTERS

Lee's Liberal bashing is ill-informed

Ingmar Lee needs to do his research. For those who will be following him though foreign countries to boycott B.C. wood, you should hope that his organizing skills are better than those put in to his January 15 letter in *the Martlet*. Mr. Lee needs to read more carefully in the newspaper and distinguish the difference between the BC Liberal Party and the Liberal Party of Canada in B.C. One is federal, one provincial, and neither are tied to each other. But given we live in a free country, some people are dual members. Piece of cake. Ingmar's assumption that this deceased dog was carrying a membership in the BC Liberal Party is false. It is the Liberal Party of Canada in B.C., but membership irregularities are only natural given the amount of growth the Liberal Party of Canada experienced.

Also, please don't fearmonger. For those of you who have thought that the UVic BC Young Liberals are under investigation by the RCMP, you are hearing from the top source right now that they are not. Also, Ingmar, "legislature" is abbreviated with "leg." You used "ledge," which is where you drive most people (even of left-wing beliefs) with your ill-informed conspiracy theories.

Dallas Henault, President of the UVic BC Young Liberals

Stop speeding down Henderson Road

The residential neighbourhood lying between Camosun College and the University of Victoria was developed in the late 1950s, before UVic's Gordon Head campus was created.

Henderson Road, which runs through this north Oak Bay neighbourhood, was not designed as the major traffic artery that it has become with the continuing growth of the university. It was designed to provide access to the homes that front onto it and to collect traffic from the various side streets.

Long-term residents have seen a large increase in traffic volume, and with that increase in volume has come many concerns about speed and safety.

Responding to those concerns, Oak Bay Municipality has set the Henderson Road speed limit at 40 km/h from the university entrance at Cedar Hill X Road down to Gibbs Road, just north of the Camosun College property. There is also a 30 km per hour playground zone between Kendal Avenue and Avondale Road.

The 40 km/h and 30 km/h speed limits are strictly enforced, and all students and staff driving this route are advised to pay particular attention to the speed zones in this area.

Henderson Road is also a natural north-south route for individuals who bicycle to class or work. Bicyclists are reminded that British Columbia law requires the use of lights front and rear for night riding, and that properly certified helmets are to be worn at all times. It is not permissible to ride on the Henderson Road sidewalk.

Yours very truly, Christopher M. Causton, Mayor of Oak Bay

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Blame current gov't for education woes

'BC Liberal provincial government is undermining the quality and accessibility of our post-secondary system'

BY SCOTT PAYNE

In his January letter to the Martlet, UVic's president of the BC Young Liberals, Dallas Henault, continues to blame all our education problems on the former government's tuition fee freeze.

This may be news to Henault, but the BC Liberals were elected in May 2001–that's a full two years and seven months ago. The only change the Liberal government has made to post-secondary education is massive increases in tuition fees. Next year, fees at UVic will be more than double what they were in 2001.

The Liberal government's tuition fee increases have done nothing to reduce waitlists and class sizes or expand the system so all qualified prospective students have the opportunity to attend college or university.

The current BC Liberal provincial government is undermining the quality and accessibility of our post-secondary system and we need to hold them accountable. All are welcome to join us on Feb. 4 for the Canadian Federation of Students rally at the Legislature.

Mr. Henault, I assure you that student fees are democratic. The fees paid to the Students' Society and the Canadian Federation of Students are set by students through a vote in a referendum. These fees have received overwhelming support from UVSS members. Setting membership fees on the basis of student vote was established decades ago and approved by the Registrar of Societies.

Although Agata Lis and Dallas Henault may disagree with the fees they pay, they have had every opportunity to vote against fee changes or initiate a referendum to reduce or eliminate them. Unlike Gordon Campbell's dramatic tuition fee increases, students most definitely did vote to support the UVSS and CFS.

I understand why the BC Young Liberals would dislike the CFS's picture depicting Premier Campbell riding a tuition rocket, as a medium for communicating to UVic students our concerns with the current provincial government. However, political caricatures have been used for decades as a method of political commentary.

What I find particularly disconcerting is that the BC Young Liberals seem more concerned with debating a red herring like this cartoon rather than discussing what the tactic is designed to draw attention to: the very real effects that high tuition fees have had on students in the past two years.

My experience in speaking with students at UVic is that they are enduring significant hardships due to the policies of this provincial government. Addressing the concerns of those students and trying to affect some positive change towards an affordable, accessible and quality post-secondary education system are the priorities of the UVSS and CFS.

If there is a debate to be had in letters to the editor, it is about the effects that high tuition fees have on achieving an accessible education system and the role that the provincial government has played in ensuring that such a system is not realized in B.C.

Scott Payne, UVSS Director of Services

Shhh! Arrogant cell phone users

'Yelling over phones was something people did at the turn of the century'

BY PATRICK WHITE

I'm the guy three seats behind you who actually doesn't give a shit that you got pissed and almost went home with "the hottest chick at the bar" last night before passing out in front of your beer bong watching the 24-hour sports channel.

You don't have to fucking yell. Why are you yelling? Yelling over phones was something people did at the turn of the century when, confronted by a new technology, they felt they had to raise their voices to cover the kilometres of cable that their call was spanning. Well, guess what, 2004 just rolled around, Bush is taking America to Mars, and you may speak at a civil volume over your phone.

I hope Dr. Martin Cooper is ashamed. As the inventor of the cell phone, he belongs among the likes of Albert Einstein and George Bush Sr., as people who inadvertently gave evil a leg up in this world by conceiving something horrible through seemingly innocent means.

The very first use of the cell phone in 1973 was a harbinger of the wickedness that would spread in beeps and shrieks around the world. Cooper made the first cell call to his rival, Bell Labs head of research Joel Engel, just to rub in the fact that he'd beat Engel to the punch.

Thirty years later, cell phone users are just as arrogant.

A final exam I had to write in MacKinnon gym last semester provided this notion in spades. Roughly five minutes into the exam it was an annoying traditional ring from somewhere on the opposite side of the gym. Half an hour into the exam it was a ring tone rendition of "Jingle Bells" a few rows to my left. Just before I finished, a piercing rendition of Beyoncé's "Crazy In Love" blared from the girl beside me.

I cancelled my own cell phone not long after the incident in the gym. It was the creator of a personality I didn't particularly like. As soon as the phone beeped, I would become one of these insensitive bastards more interested in yelling over the phone than paying attention to traffic, embodied conversation, or simple courtesies.

It's what Kenneth Gergen, a professor of psychology and author of *The Saturated Self: Dilemmas of Identity in Contemporary Life* might call a symptom of post-modern life. He coined the term multiphrenia to refer to "the splitting of the individual into a multiplicity of self-investments [which is] partly a result of the populated self's efforts to exploit the potentials of the technologies of relationship."

Gergen suggests that while innovations in communications technologies have given us greater freedom in time and space, they have also created a strange sort of tyranny in our lives. The more ways we find to communicate with others, the more "others are incorporated into the self, and their desires become Ones own, there is an expansion of goals of musts, wants, and needs. Attention is necessitated, effort is exerted, frustrations are encountered. Each new desire places demands and reduces Ones liberties."

When I cancelled the phone, the service provider gave me an extra month of service to think my decision over. Little did they know, fate was on my side. Three days after making the cancellation call, I was basking in a friend's hot-tub when I realized the cell phone was in my pocket. It died and I was liberated. Now I just have to convince the loud asshole on the bus of this.

Mars vs. ocean

Why not explore the blue part of earth before we look to the red planet

BY MITCH LEBLANC

The esteemed President of the United States has declared that for the next ten years, the space program will concentrate on shuttling humans around the solar system. His grandiose vision has us reclaiming the Moon and even extends to putting people on Mars. Some people call it the election promise of the decade–it certainly has NASA following Bush around like trained puppies and space buffs rolling around in ecstasy. I just call it a phenomenal waste of global resources.

This planet is teeming with people. Human beings are crawling out of every crack while they fight more and more for less and less space. Diseases are popping up which boggle the imagination as well as defy our abilities to combat them. Overcrowding in the world's largest cities ensures that the quality of human life disintegrates before our very eyes while farmland is overworked to ensure that at least some people have more than enough food.

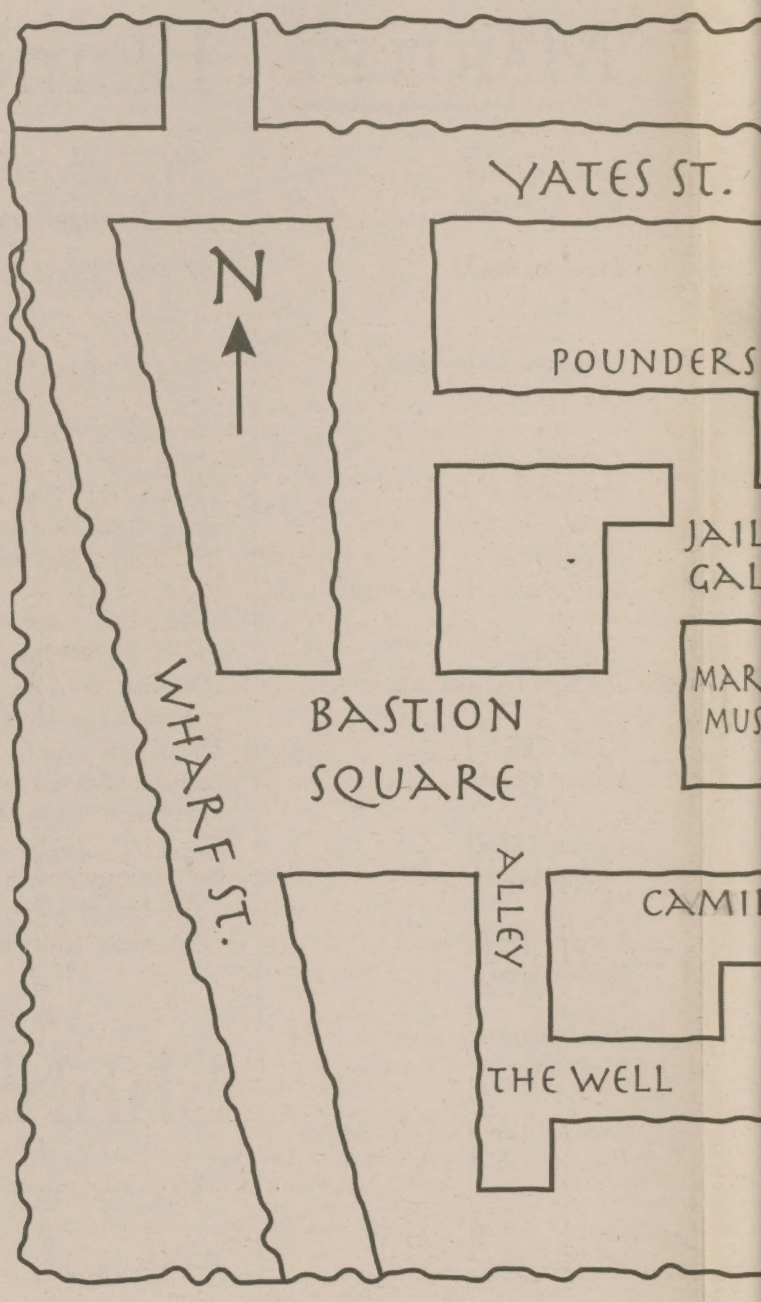
President Bush has once again caught the world off guard. Instead of concentrating on human issues that deeply affect the global community, he's done the exact opposite of anything that resembles logic. He has directed global attention to an airless and arguably lifeless world instead of towards the 75 per cent of this planet that we have barely begun to understand.

If a shuttle launched tomorrow, it would take six months, at best, to reach Mars. I can have both feet in the ocean within ten minutes of walking out of my apartment. The oceans are deep, mysterious, and full of life.

There are resources there that we cannot even begin to comprehend from the surface dwelling viewpoint on which we rely to keep us content in our ignorance. The power of the tides alone could power limitless numbers of undersea colonies while those that lived there farmed and ate the kelp and other underwater plants that grow in abundance. Oxygen and salt could be removed from the water to sustain the basic requirements that life under the sea would require.

Homo sapiens are not capable of taking on a major accomplishment without screwing something up at least once. If we as a species sent someone to the planet Mars, it would be highly unlikely that those poor souls would be coming back.

The oceans hold great wonders that we haven't even begun to discover. At the very least, setting up a scientific colony along one of the continental shelves would serve as a great practice run for setting one up on Mars.



GHOSTS OF

BY VANESSA NEUMAN

Beautiful Victoria, British Columbia: jewel of B.C., city of gardens, and–capital of ghosts? You heard right. Victoria, our postcard perfect city, that great magnet of the tourist hordes, is also possibly one of the most haunted cities on the west coast of North America.

Don't believe me? Read on.

In Victoria's downtown core, ghosts, hauntings and ghost sightings are talked about freely between the merchants working in the area. Stories are traded amongst friends and acquaintances and it is common knowledge which stores are haunted.

Much of the paranormal activity centres on Bastion Square, a quaint pedestrian cobblestone road in the centre of what was once Fort Victoria. I myself work a block away, in a store on the corner of Fort and Government. Almost all of the buildings on either side of us are supposedly haunted.

There are literally dozens of spots around Bastion Square that are haunted. The Custom House Currency Exchange is haunted by a lady who plays the organ at night; the ghost of a former inn proprietor, one Adelaide Griffin, can often be seen near Pounder's restaurant; and the Bedford Regency hotel is still visited by a regular who was murdered in the beer hall that used to be in their basement.

Of all the spots in the square, the Maritime Museum on the corner of Langley Street is undoubtedly one of the most haunted. From noises and figures to poltergeist activity, it's got it all.

Between 1859 and 1885 the police barracks and jail stood on that spot, and afterwards, when that building was torn down the new courthouse was erected there. That is the building still standing today.

Back in those days the judicial system of Canada still practised capital punishment. The jailyard with the gallows were at the back of the building, near where the Blue Carrot Café and the Yates Street parkade stand today.

Across from the jailyard there was a small two-story saloon and inn called the Boomerang Inn. People would come early on the day of a hanging and try to secure themselves a spot somewhere high up so that they could see over the walls and into the yard.

When the building became the spot for the courtrooms it became the territory of Sir Matthew Baillie Begbie, the Chief Justice of the province, and commonly known as the "Hanging Judge." During his career he sentenced as many as 27 men to death by the noose.

The museum is definitely haunted. According to John Adams, a local historian who gives Ghost Walk tours of downtown Victoria and has written a book about Bastion Square, Sir Matthew is reputed to visit the Maritime Museum still. A student finishing up some work on the elevator one night back in the 1960s claimed to have seen the figure of an elderly gentleman robed in black on one of the staircases.

Despite the fact that the student's co-worker was downstairs at the exit and would have seen the old man go out the door if he had left, the young men could find neither hide nor hair of the gentleman in the building.

More recently, during some restorations in the courtroom done during the 1990s, footsteps were often heard in the empty public gallery that overlooks the room.

Anne Jones, who works at the museum, has an even more recent story. While in the gift shop one day this past December, she witnessed one of the fisherman's caps that they sell lift itself off the shelf and fall, not straight down, but out into the room.

Victoria was founded over 160 years ago by the Hudson Bay Company as one of their trading forts. Before then the area was the site of thousands of years of continuous habitation by the local First Nations people. Adams believes the high concentration of ghosts in Victoria can be at least partially explained by the sheer number of people who have lived here over the centuries.

He says experts believe ghosts haunt a location for a few different reasons, one of the most common being that something of significance to that person happened in that location. It could be that the person died either suddenly or violently in that spot, with little or no time to prepare for death or that for some reason or another the location had great personal importance to them.

One story of this kind centres on Sir Thomas Rattenbury, the architect responsible for the Parliament Buildings, the Empress Hotel and the Crystal Gardens, among many other local buildings. Despite having been murdered in England, he is thought to haunt the Empress on occasion, possibly because he was famous here and the location holds sweet memories for him.

Another theory is that the earth is crisso
Places where these lines converge are tho
like.

Victoria is believed by many to be one o
even a controversial book written in 1980
about Satanic rituals supposed to have tak
hotspots: Ross Bay Cemetery on Dallas R

A third possibility proposed by Adams i
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Poltergeist activity, like in the cases abo
actually move and affect physical objects.
footsteps, voices, doors slamming or mus
touched by the ghosts, who do such thin
tapping on the shoulder or even pushing

The person sensing the ghost may also
physical sensations, like an intense cold, a
sometimes even pressure on the chest or
even smell ghosts, or more correctly, sme
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Camille's Fine West Coast Dining, acros
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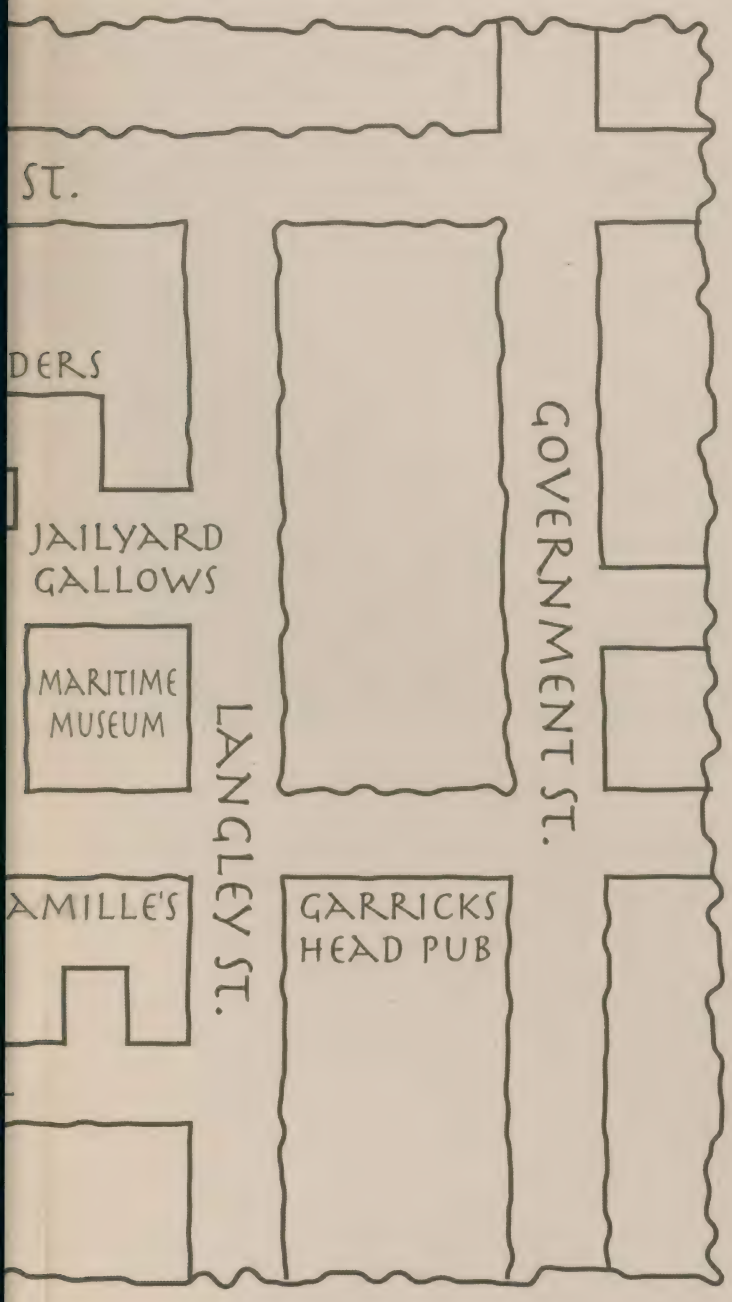

VICTORIA

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you will see an arched alleyway on the left, between Dig This and the Custom House Currency Exchange. It was down this alley that inmates from the jail who were being made to do forced labour would walk every day, and to this day their ghosts are said to linger on.

Not only that, but if you go down the alley about halfway and look in the windows on the right, you will see a curious, low, cylindrical structure in the lobby of the building.

This is the lobby of 1117 Wharf Street and what you are seeing is a well, originally built in the days when Victoria was a fort for the Hudson Bay Company, then subsequently covered up and forgotten.

It was rediscovered sometime in the 1970s, when the then abandoned building was being restored for use as offices. Instead of either sealing it off for good or filling it in, the decision was made to convert the well into an attractive focal point for the room.

Perhaps it was the restoration that woke the ghost. Or maybe he had been there all along, unnoticed because no one was using the place. Either way, people soon began to tell stories of a small boy seen hanging around the well, and a feeling of intense cold or sadness that could be felt when standing near the structure.

It seems that at some point during the 19th century, while the well was still in use, a miner who was visiting the fort to get supplies dropped something down the deep, dark hole. Being neither willing to get it himself nor to give it up for good, he hired a young boy to go into the well and get it for him. The boy was doing fine until he slipped and fell, causing an avalanche of stones. He was crushed to death.

A great number of the older buildings in downtown Victoria are thought to be haunted. In fact, it is more common for the people working in these buildings to have ghost stories than to not.

My building, unfortunately, is not haunted. Despite the fact that we're housed in the same building as the old bell tower and within close proximity to other ghosts, our store has shown no sign of having an otherworldly guest

It makes me a bit jealous. Perhaps that is why whenever I hear stories of other people's hauntings I listen with rapt attention. At least I can live vicariously through their experiences.

GHOSTHUNTING TIPS

While you might get scared by an encounter with a ghost, it is rare that you will be harmed. Many ghosts are benign, and even those who are more malicious rarely hurt anybody. Don't go around worrying that you may run into one in the streets of Victoria.

Conversely, if you are interested in learning more there are a few good resources you can use.

Books

- *Ghosts and Legends of Bastion Square* by John Adams
- *Carnacki the Ghost Finder* by William Hope Hodgson
- *A Gathering of Ghosts: Hauntings and Exorcisms from the personal casebook of Robin Skelton and Jean Kozocari* by Robin Skelton.
- *Michelle Remembers* by Michelle Smith
- *April Ghost of the Victoria Golf Links* by Charles Lillard
- *Ghost Stories and Mysterious Creatures of British Columbia* by Barbara Smith

Websites

www.discoverthepast.com – John Adams' guided Ghost Tours of old Victoria.

www.ghostweb.com – An international gathering place for paranormal enthusiasts. Includes (for a large fee) a home study course to become a "Certified Ghost Hunter."

www.theshadowlands.net – An encyclopedia of the paranormal. Thousands of personal accounts, an index of haunted places, advice for ghost hunters, even a support network for people struggling to deal with a haunting. Also stuff about the Sasquatch, sea serpents, UFOs and other weird shit.

www.ghosthunterstore.com – For the serious ghost hunter, an online store selling everything from dowsing rods to Geiger counters, electromagnetic field detectors and infrared motion sensors..

√

Sultry songstress Starr soars with new album

BY VANESSA NEUMAN

When veteran indie rocker Kinnie Starr plays The Upstairs Cabaret this Friday it will be only her fourth date on what looks to be a good few months of shows.

A little tired but oh so sexy, the excitement and satisfaction in her voice comes through when she starts talking about her current tour. From Victoria she will go up-Island and then back to her hometown of Vancouver to take a break for few weeks. Then it's out east, then she's off to the U.K., and then back to Canada for some dates in the prairies. Not a bad way to start the new year.

The album that she will be promoting on this tour, *Sun Again*, is a bit of a departure from her earlier work. Less political and much less angry, the songs on this album just beg to be savoured again and again. Take the lyrics on the track "Soar": "I've knocked down my share of doors / ripped up my share of floors / and now I've begun to / I've begun to soar." And she does soar, her voice just the right mix of sultry and smart, the melodies and beats a perfect counterpoint.

Having just wrapped up a six-month stint working with Cirque du Soleil on their Las Vegas show, *Zumanity*, Starr sounds like she's ready to take up performing solo once again. So, has being a part of a show created by a world famous circus had an effect on her as an artist and musician? Probably, but it's still too recent to really know exactly.

"It's still sinking in," Starr says, "but being down there [in Las Vegas] did really make me realize how nice it is to be in Canada. Vegas can be pretty unreal."

The whole past year has been a bit unusual for Starr. In addition to the Cirque du Soleil work, 2003 also saw her appearing in a feature film for the first time. Entitled *Down and Out with the Dolls*, it is a story about an up-and-coming Portland all-girl rock band, the Paper Dolls. The producers originally contacted Starr because they wanted someone to help write music. Around the same time as they were talking to her, the producers were also looking for someone to play the drummer, Reggie. They found out that she knew how to play drums and things took off from there.

After she came back to Vancouver last September, Starr started recording her next album. To date, 11 tracks have been recorded, but don't hold your breath for a release date any time soon. The earliest that we will get to see the fruits of her efforts will probably be 2005. Her philosophy is that you have to give an album time to develop and grow. If she released another recording so soon after the release of *Sun Again* she might risk smothering that album.

As Starr says goodbye, excitement still runs through her voice. She sounds happy and relaxed. She sounds like she's where she wants to be.

Kinnie Starr plays The Upstairs Cabaret on Friday, Jan. 23. Doors are at 10 p.m.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Kinnie Starr, she of the oh-so-sexy voice, rocks the mic.

Kinnie Starr! Win her latest CD and tickets to see her in concert!

Come in to the Martlet (sub b011) before Friday night and ask for Jeb to claim yours.

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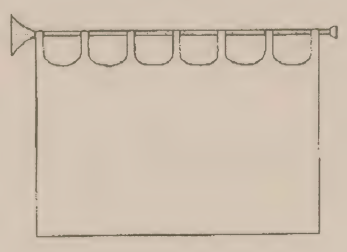

CALL for NOMINATIONS
Election to the Senate

SIXTEEN FULL-TIME STUDENTS (including at least one student from each Faculty - 1 year term)
ONE PART-TIME STUDENT (1 year term)

Election to the Board of Governors

TWO FULL-TIME STUDENTS (1 year term)

Nominations: Close Thursday, February 5, 2004

Nomination papers must be signed by no fewer than three students students eligible to vote, other than the candidate, and by the candidate. Nomination forms are available in Room 410, Business & Economics Building or from the Student Resource Centre, Room 103, in the Student Union Building on or after January 14, 2004.

A nomination paper is not valid unless it is received in Room 410, Business & Economics Building, University of Victoria, not later than 4:30 p.m. Thursday, February 5, 2004.

Important notice – all voting for students to the Senate and Board will be processed via the web-vote system. There will not be paper ballots available for this election.

Sheila Sheldon Collyer
University Secretary

Dated this 12th of January, 2004
Office of the University Secretary

approved for posting until
February 5, 2004
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Ministry of Sound's edicts get the booty shaking

by Briony Smith

Ministry of Sound
The Annual 2004
Ultra

Ah, the Ministry of Sound's *Annual* compilation: all that is holy in the pantheon of electronica, smelted down into two slickly-packaged CDs that convey all the sweaty excitement of London and Ibiza.

I do not begrudge Ministry of Sound the release of their *Annual* compilations of trance/jungle/garage tunes. They are an internationally recognized label, and the leading dance club brand in the world.

Releasing scores of CDs and compilations per year, they have a rabid following of club kids who religiously snap up what the Ministry of Sound empire– replete with its own dance music magazines, fashion labels and tours featuring big-name DJs–churns out on a startlingly regular basis.

Since the opening of the legendary club Ministry of Sound in London in 1991, they have been the authority on all things dance music; anything stamped with their distinctive logo featuring a crowned disco-ball globe hugged on both sides by the curling banner "Ministry of Sound" is kosher. It is a logo appropriate for a powerhouse that dominates the clubbing scene and lends a sense of authority to anything the image graces.

Ministry of Sound was my in to the world of partying in high school, as I was able to trust these folk that dealt out proclamations from on high about all things electronica. After merely studying several of their CD covers, dance music lingo began to slip off my lips with the greatest of ease: dub, Paul Oakenfold, remix, happy house. While the Ministry of Sound label did not denote the kind of cool that people who partied underground and disdained the kind of large-scale raves that I enjoyed possessed, it was a sure primer for learning to navigate the waters of the dance music scene.

While I haven't been to a party in years, my raving days are ones that I look upon fondly. I suppose I never really invested myself fully in the scene, never gobbling up fistfuls of so-called "consciousness-expanding" chemicals or becoming that skilled connoisseur of house music on the never-ending quest for the most rare double-secret-super remix vinyl from Paul Van Dyk or Ferry Corsten. Despite my diligent monitoring of what parties were happening in town, watching films that were about the rave culture, (*Groove*, *Human Traffic*), listening to my Ministry of Sound *Annual 2000* CD and doing my Internet research to see whether ecstasy really did drain your brain fluid, partying wasn't the right fit.

So I came to *The Annual 2004* with some fondness and a little pang of nostalgia.

The familiar logo gleamed from the slick black cover, a shining beacon of authority that once governed my musical tastes. I listened to the CD and was transported back to a time when I wore sparkle-dust on my collarbone and wanted to dance like everyone else.

Ministry of Sound is the rite of passage for all those dance newbies, and it also remains a good choice for the average person shopping for a dance CD. It is solid, but relatively bland dance music that is upbeat and pleasant to listen to.

First, a warning. The second CD of *Annual 2004* is worthless and would be well-suited for scratching your lotto tickets, as it is filled with amateur-sounding early-nineties dance-mix xylophone noises and a ridiculous preponderance of hideously cheesy female vocals. It also features the omnipresent club hit "Kiss My Eyes" by Bob Sinclair whose melodramatic and pseudo-salsa overtones made it bad enough without the sounds of sirens added to the Menimal mix. The CD sounds like something bleep-blooped out of some computer software by an inexperienced teen DJ.

The first CD makes up for the big letdown of the second, as it is ideal for throwing on while studying or getting ready to go clubbing. The first six tracks are super-strong with a variety of interesting features. DJ Gregory's remix of Despina Vandi's "Gia" has an Indian flavour while the Dmitri From Paris-inspired "Just the Way You Are" by Milky, the Juicy mix of Robbie Rivera's "Girlfriend" and Ewan Pearson's remix of Seelenluft's "Manila" features fun quirky female vocals. Such a strong start is important for a dance CD to keep the crowd grooving.

Heavy Rock's "(I Just Want to Be A) Drummer" suffers from the random mixing in of a drum solo, but the 666-sounding song is a hit. Funny little tracks like remixes of Nelly's "Hot in Here" and Elton John's "Are You Ready for Love?" add a little spice to a CD filled primarily with pure dance tunes.

The real stand-out are Tracks 9 and 10–the club mix of M@D Production's "Short Skirts" and the Sfaction remix of Benny Benassi's "Able to Love"–which are stupendous gorgeously hard house tracks that thrill the listener and are definitely the most danceable songs in the album. Despite the horrible CD Two of the compilation, Ministry of Sound's *Annual 2004* is worth throwing your bucks down for.

Ministry of Sound may not be the hippest or most underground entity in the business of dance music, but they are the most prevalent and have a respectable authority. They have landmark status that keeps making music that matters to kids who love to dance, whether they are just trying on their first pair of phat pants or are merely looking back on their time as a club kid with fondness.

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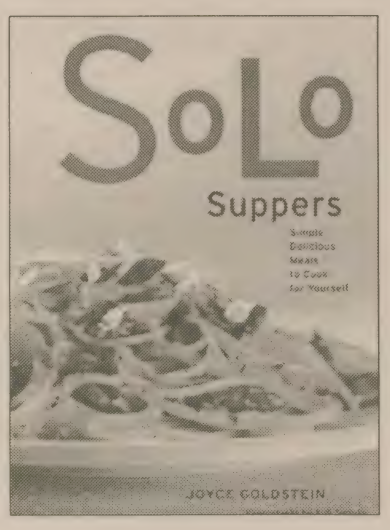
Some books for those who cook

BY VANESSA NEUMAN

Solo Suppers
Joyce Goldstein
Chronicle Books



For a book that would appear from its title to be very appropriate for the average student kitchen, its contents are about as far from that scenario as possible.

The actual recipes in Joyce Goldstein's *Solo Suppers* have little if anything to do with the ease and simplicity of cooking, and frequently the ingredients cost much more than the average student would be willing to spend on a meal they cooked only for themselves. Recipes such as "Lobster for One" and "Roast Duck with Lemon and Rosemary" are typical. This book will be particularly disappointing if you buy it looking for recipes for the times when you feel like having something tasty, but have little time to cook.

Solo Suppers seems to have been written with the single yuppie-ish type in mind. It's for people who come home from work and have the time and inclination to make themselves a fancy dinner, but lack the dinner partner that would necessitate a book with larger quantities. The author even suggests ways to garnish the meal before serving.

Bitching aside, the recipes are actually tasty and, if the quantities were increased, would be appropriate for a dinner where you wanted to impress that special someone.

The "Persian Meatball Soup" is quite good, as is the "Spaghetti alla Carbonara." Even some of the sauces at the beginning of the book can be co-opted for use in other recipes that you may choose to make.

At the end of the day, the food contained in *Solo Suppers* was good but the format–as a cookbook for one person–left much to be desired.

BY VANESSA NEUMAN

Midnight Munchies
Diane Morgan
Chronicle Press

The answer to late night cravings, as long as you have pound cake.

Ever wanted to own a cookbook containing all of your friends' crazy-yet-good concoctions but feared no such tome existed? Lament no more.

Midnight Munchies contains a wealth of information on how to spice up those quick-fix foods that (admit it) so many of us stock on our kitchen shelves.

Possibilities range from how to make a really quick curry with ramen noodles and coconut milk, to easy peach Bellinis and a really awesome egg dish made with spinach, feta and tomatoes. Mom still might not totally approve of your eating habits, but Kraft dinner with salsa and a crust of crushed wheat crackers and cheese sounds healthier than just plain Kraft dinner, doesn't it?

The one complaint to make about *Midnight Munchies* is that while the cover proclaims "More than 60 quick-fix snacks" some ingredients may not typically be stocked in your kitchen, making it a bit hard for those quick-fix moments.

The frozen pound cake, lemon pudding and blueberries required for "Puckery Lemon Pudding on Toasted Pound Cake" is just one example.

That small beef aside, this is a fun cookbook, and while not exactly ideal when it comes to nutritional value, it would make a good gift, especially for those people who seem to subsist on snacking alone.

Young and Sexy talk chowder and Wonder Woman

BY MATHEW BULFORD

I arrive at Logan's in a huff, sodden and shivery as an icebox and 15 minutes late to interview the Young and Sexy. Half an hour later, Young and Sexy arrive–late, albeit sexy–with instruments in tow. After 30 minutes of ear-itching feedback throughout the band's setup and sound check, they're ready to be interrogated.

I begin by asking the band to say a few words about the aural and lyrical tenor of their new album *Life Through One Speaker*. Ted Bois, Young and Sexy's keyboardist, says "It's like Wonder Woman on the beach–visually–and the auditory equivalent of that visual metaphor."

The band recorded their most recent album over several weeks in the home belonging to the parents of New Pornographers bassist John Collins, surrounded by the "briny air" of Galiano Island. Evidently it was the perfect backdrop for laying down the 10 syrupy tracks on their new album. "There were eagles swooping past the sliding glass doors," says vocalist Lucy Brain. The band even gave in to bassist and part-time guitarist Andre Lagace's predilection for clam chowder. "We went clam digging," says the bassist, "and I made clam chowder." Bois pipes up, "White chowder–red is a little too bloody for us."

The band describes the recording process as relaxed. "We'd worked with John [Collins] on the last record–so we already felt like family," says Paul Hixon Pittman, Young and Sexy's vocalist, songwriter, and lead guitarist. "Besides," adds Bois, "we were trapped on an island, and all we could do was record."

"Or watch the Playboy channel," adds Brain.

Pittman is responsible for crafting Young and Sexy's silvery sonorous songs. Bois says that songwriting is analogous to tapping maple trees for syrup–a sluggish process. "Once, I walked into Paul's apartment and he was bleeding onto his notebook and the blood was forming into words," Bois whispers eerily.

But just how long does it take Pittman to bleed out a song? "It can take days," says Pittman. Bois supplies another syrup analogy: "Once a song is finished, it sticks to you like maple syrup." Pittman suggests that the band's next album be titled Pancake Dinner. "We could send out pancakes as a promo," says Bois.

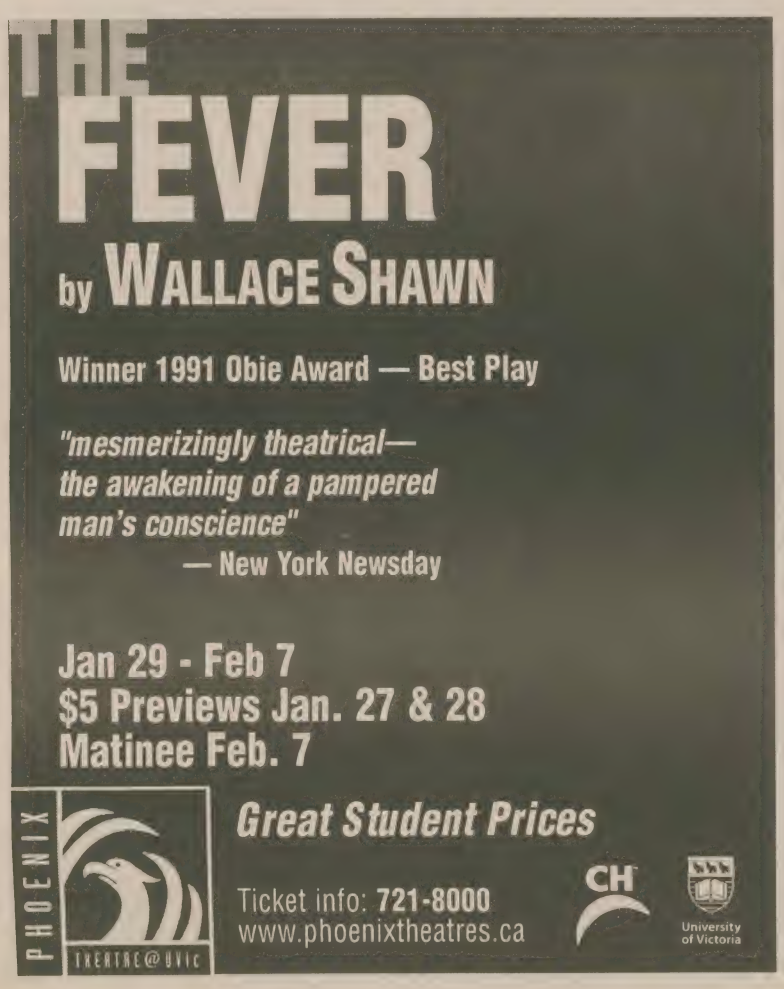
The band is currently trying to secure a U.S. label deal. "It's hard to tour the States without the support of a label," Brain explains. "Eventually we want the music to support us."

Lagace works as a bartender, Brain "works for the Devil–she makes sure the commercials get on TV," and Pittman works "to make his city a better place to park in"–all young and sexy things to do.

I wonder aloud where the group's name comes from. "Sects devoted to the studies of Jung," Bois says with a riotous laugh. "Jungian Sects!"

I ask Bois if he will produce a side project involving Jungian Sects. Pittman doesn't think so. "But we want to have a cover band that does 'Young and Saxy,'" Pittman laughs. I tell Pittman that pan flute is at the forefront where muzak is concerned. "That's the one with the pancake promo!" Brain bellows with a smirk.

My time with Young and Sexy comes to an end as the opening band, Chet, will take the stage in a few minutes. I thank Pittman, Brain, Lagace and Bois–drummer Ron Teardrop is still tinkering with his drum kit–and walk away with a grin. Young and Sexy are just that: young, sexy and sincere–real people making real music.



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MARTYN JOSEPH

If you want a pair of Martyn Joseph tickets, come to the *Martlet* office (sub b011) before Monday, Jan. 26 and talk to Jeb.

He'll hook you up.

Martyn Joseph makes me cry

by Bryna Hallam

Martyn Joseph wanted to be a golfer when he grew up. Instead, he is a singer-songwriter. Lucky us.

Joseph picked up both the guitar and golf clubs at age 10. Golf dominated his life throughout his teenage years. He was good, too, playing at a very high amateur level. But at 20 he realized he wasn't going to make it as a professional golfer. It was then that he turned all of his attention to music. He hasn't looked back.

Joseph seems like he should make good music. After all, he sings gritty protest songs and supports humanitarian groups such as Advantage Africa and Brazil's MST (Landless Farmers' Movement). He cites Bruce Springsteen and Bob Dylan–"people who say things"–as his musical influences.

On the other hand, some of his hits have titles like "Dolphins Make Me Cry" and "Thunder and Rainbows"–a bit too cutesy and new agey to catch the attention of mainstream music fans.

Joseph admits that his music isn't for everyone. "It is music that says something," he said. As a result, he attracts a "certain kind of listener."

He suggests that people wanting a night out to dance and zone out should not come to his show. "If that's what you want, go to a dance club," he said. "My show gives people a chance to laugh, shed the odd tear and think about life."

The Welsh singer doesn't consider himself to be an entertainer. "I never set out to be an entertainer," said Joseph. "I take fans on a journey. The entertainment is a by-product."

That could be the problem. While some might say his lyrics are powerful and moving, revealing a desire to set the world's injustices right, it could also be said that they are repetitive and whiny.

But as Joseph points out, "It's hard to do something outside of the mainstream."

"There is more support here for this type of music than in the U.K.," he said. As a country rich in folksingers and Celtic-influenced bands such as Spirit of the West and Great Big Sea, Canada is a perfect fit for Joseph's tunes.

Joseph believes his music represents the common man. "I write about ordinary people and their struggles, whether they are in Africa or in the West," he said. "I think this generation is being let down. I don't think anybody is going to look back and say, 'Yeah, Britney Spears sang about my life.'"

He has a point, of course. The question is, does Martyn Joseph?

Martyn Joseph is playing Jan. 26 at the Gibson Auditorium at the Lansdowne campus of Camosun College. Doors are at 6:30 p.m., while advance tickets are $22, tickets at the door $24.

PROVIDED PHOTO

Martyn Joseph isn't crying. Yet.

Daft Punk defter than ever

by Graham Stark

Daft Punk & Leiji Matsumoto
Interstella 5555: The 5tory of the 5ecret 5tar 5ystem (DVD)
EMI / Virgin

A group known for doing things differently, it's no surprise that French electronica duo Daft Punk decided to do something very different with their 2001 album *Discovery*. With renowned Japanese animé director Leiji Matsumoto, they turned the album into an "animated house musical," creating a full movie with Discovery as the soundtrack. You may remember the music videos, despite the fact that very few of them got airplay, for this album featured a blue alien rock band playing Daft Punk's music. This DVD has the rest of the story.

Running at just over an hour, *Interstella* is a fantastic adventure. The alien rock band is captured by a madman, brought to Earth, drugged and forced to produce music for greedy record execs. Their only hope is a lone pilot with a spaceship shaped like a giant electric guitar.

The DVD also includes a bonus CD with rare remixes of *Discovery* tracks by such eminient artists as Basement Jaxx, Slum Village and The Neptunes.

This is an absolute must-have for fans of Daft Punk. Animé enthusiasts can definitely appreciate the work done here, and your average fans of electronica will probably get a kick out of it as well. It's unlike anything you've ever seen before, which in today's music culture is incredibly refreshing.

Secret pockets of theatre bliss

by Zoë Bake-Paterson

A young man with thick black-framed glasses asks if anyone has spare change for the man outside with his guitar, then passes a hat through the audience. He leaves, then returns a few minutes later, stands at the front and says, "Hi, I'm Darren." *A Suicide-site Guide to the City* has begun.

He stands surrounded by objects perched on top of pedestals: an Anarchy magazine, a stack of books, a microphone, earplugs and an eye-cover, a video camera, a box cutter, an onion and a fog machine. There are also two tables, both covered with technical equipment, manned by Nick Murray and J. P. Robichaud. This is the stage. This is also theatre in the raw.

"Right off the top, this isn't going to be for everyone," says Darren O'Donnell, who wrote and is performing *A Suicide-site Guide to the City*. It is a true statement of modern theatre.

He is talking directly to the audience, a crowd of 50 who aren't sure whether the play has begun or not. No, he is not talking. He's acting. It is like a speech, or a conversation, but it is not. What he says appears to be autobiographical, and mostly is, but there's room to doubt because he is an actor on-stage.

"You're here as judge and jury," says O'Donnell on-stage. "You also hope in your heart of hearts to be dazzled."

While some may be dazzled, others may be bored or confused. "Canadian theatre is really conservative," says O'Donnell. "It's in a bit of a rut right now." This is why he says he discovered experimental theatre. It's quirky, in your face and, in this case, very political.

The themes of the piece concern the relationship between suicide and homicide, destruction and creation. He tells stories of feeling violent towards people–like George W. Bush, for example–or fantasizing about suicide, or the immense joy he felt following the September 11 attacks, and of political, social or emotional isolation.

The narration jumps from 2001 to 2003 and back, from bustling College street in the city of Toronto–shown in video clips on a screen behind the stage–to various airplane rides.

He creates characters out of words: an airplane marshal, a sleeping passenger named Helen, a streetcar that lies stranded like a beached whale on the streets of Toronto during the blackout this summer and cries in his arms, and, of course, the homeless man with his guitar singing Neil Young to the end. Above all, the one constant is Darren O'Donnell, the narrator, the dreamer.

"People have walked out of my plays anyways, so why would this be any different?" asks O'Donnell in an interview. He says it's the non-linear form people will have a problem with, rather than the politics.

"I don't want to be talking politics with you," says O'Donnell on-stage. "I want to be making out with you."

It is a moment of honesty. For while this play concerns socio-political themes, it also delves into sex and desire. Mid-way through the show, the attractive 38-year-old Darren O'Donnell requests an audience member to come and kiss him on stage. Seriously, for real, he wants a kiss.

You may have missed this quirky gem of a show when it passed through Victoria last week, a play that will amuse, titillate and tickle your intellect. *A Suicide-site Guide to the City* provides a glimpse into what experimental theatre can be.

There's not a lot of modern or experimental theatre happening in this city, but in small pockets of the theatre world, usually far from the mainstage, shows do appear. Thanks to local companies like Intrepid Theatre that bring groups like *Suicide-site*'s Mammalian Diving Reflex, more are coming this way.

Regardless of what your taste in theatre is, non-traditional shows can move you–they may wow, they may perturb, and they are guaranteed to make you think.

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Rusty Vikes fall to Pride

Returning World Cup players Colin Yukes and Ed Fairhurst not enough for men's rugby as cross-town rivals Pacific Pride win 23–8

BY PATRICK WHITE

The last time Colin Yukes played rugby it was October, in Australia, for Canada at the Rugby World Cup.

The 6'6", 253 lb. Yukes stayed down under for a month and a half after the tournament. "Mostly I was sitting on the beach and drinking beer," he said of his holiday. "I trained pretty hard for a solid year before that."

After the tournament, scouts approached Yukes from Europe and Japan to sign him to play professionally overseas. "That's what I'd like to do after school. There's good money over there," he said.

For now Yukes, along with national teammate, scrumhalf Ed Fairhurst, is back playing with the Vikes, who are looking to improve on a poor first half of the B.C. rugby union season.

The Vikes kicked off the second half on Friday under the lights at Centennial stadium against cross-town rivals Pacific Pride. Even with their national team members back, the rusty Vikes came up well short, losing 23–8.

In the first half the much larger Pride dominated. Early on they crashed to the Vikes goal line to set up winger Brock Nicholson for the game's first try. Mike Pyke converted.

Soon after, the Vikes, who looked small, weak and out-of-shape, paid for their sloppiness when Pride kicker Pike hit from 35 metres out to bring the score to 10–0.

National Sevens team member Dave Moonlight was impressive for the Vikes in the first half. He made gains with every touch of the ball, eluded tacklers with quick lateral movements and made timely passes. It was all for naught however, as the half ended without the Vikes scoring.

The Pride started strong again in the second half. Some tidy phases from the forwards allowed Jake Osbourne to run free and score, stretching the Pride lead to 18-0.

Centennial Stadium's embarrassing excuse for a scoreboard finally lit up for the Vikes when captain Mike Danskin hit a penalty kick 15 minutes into the half. But the Pride continued to keep the Vikes pinned in their own end. Following another series of passes out wide, Stirling Richmond eluded three tacklers to score for the Pride, putting the score to 23-3 and well beyond the reach of the Vikes.

With 15 minutes remaining Matt Cohen salvaged some dignity for UVic, crossing the line for the Vikes' lone try. Danskin failed to convert. Late pressure from the Vikes never paid off and the largely unfulfilling game ended at 23–8.

Vikes coach Doug Tate felt his team was poorly prepared for the match. "We made way too many mental mistakes and they really outmanned us physically," he said. "We had a lot of rust. There were a few guys that were way out of position."

Fairhurst and Yukes played well, but were far from peak form. Neither had played since Canada's last game in Australia on Oct. 29.

The Vikes next game is in Vancouver on Feb. 7 against the UBC Old Boys Ravens.

NIC HUME PHOTO

The play of Vikes winger Dave Moonlight (above with ball) was one of the few highlights in Friday's disappointing 23–8 loss to Pacific Pride.

Sports briefs

Basketball

Chrises duel like banjos in Vikes away loss

You can't win if you don't score, or so the saying goes. You can however lose, even if you do score and score often, as the Vikes men's basketball team proved last Friday against the University of Calgary Dinos. The Vikes lost to the highly-touted Dinos in Calgary despite putting up 82 points, including 28 from guard Chris Trumpy. The Dinos, led by Chris Wright's 32 points (apparently guys named Chris were given some kind of anabolic stimulant triggering an insatiable urge to score just prior to game time), were what those in the sports world call "unstoppable," scoring 92 points in the win.

The Vikes followed up the next night with an 87–80 overtime win over the worst team in the conference, the Lethbridge Pronghorns. The win upped the team's season record to 87–80.

'Twas a game we should have won,' say Vikes women

Third place, tenth place, in the end what's the difference? Apparently none at all. The tenth-place Calgary Dinos women's basketball team stunned the third-ranked Vikes 65–56 last Friday in Calgary. The Dinos were playing without their top player, Jessica Foltinek, who underwent season-ending surgery earlier in the week. The Vikes, spearheaded by Krystal O'Byrne's 16 points and nine rebounds, led the game 53–52 with 3:40 remaining, before the Dinos went Jurassic, outscoring the Vikes 13–3 to close out the match.

An obviously angry, angry Vikes team took a trip down the old Alberta Highway 1A the next night to take on the Lethbridge Pronghorns. The Pronghorns, the CIS equivalent of the Bad News Bears, would have needed a renewed outbreak of SARS to beat the Vikes on this night, falling 79–37. The win brought the Vikes record to 8–4.

Swimming

Vikes to host Canada West Swim Championship

Victoria's Commonwealth Pool, otherwise known as the home-across-town-from-home of the Vikes swim team, plays host this weekend to the best university swimmers in Western Canada. Swimmers from Manitoba west will compete for the right to be known as champions of the pool, or more specifically as swimmers whose performance in the pool earns them the right to compete in the CIS national swim championships later this year. We here at *the Martlet* wish the best for our swimmers, with a special shout-out going to former *Martlet* correspondent Rich Cole. Good luck in the pool, Rich .

Richard Warnica

You know what I love?
Vikes games.
That and writing about Vikes games. You too can share in the Vike-coloured love by becoming the newest Martlet sports writer.
Las Vegas Style Night Club Comes to Victoria!
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Cowardly UBC flees from Vikes

Women's field hockey team loses chance at revenge as UBC drops out of consecutive tournaments

by Jeb Gordon

PROVIDED PHOTO

The Vikes women's field hockey team struggles in the mushy pouring rain in Oakville Ontario during last fall's CIS national championship game. They were set to play UBC again last weekend and then again this weekend, but the Thunderbirds cancelled both dates.

The Vikes women's field hockey team was supposed to have their chance to avenge a bitter loss last weekend, but UBC cancelled their indoor tournament, claiming a lack of gym space. No matter. Revenge would have to wait only a week, as the teams were to play this weekend at the UVic indoor tournament. But UBC has cancelled again, robbing the Vikes of their chance at vengeance.

Three months ago UVic lost one of the closest CIS national championship games in history to UBC, in a game dominated less by either team than by the weather. The rain was so bad in Oakville, Ontario on the day of the final that people were squeegeeing the turf, trying to remove the standing water.

The weather and some excellent goaltending had the Vikes and UBC scoreless at the end of regulation. Sudden death overtime and the first round of strokes solved nothing. But UBC came through in the third round strokes to win the title and end the season.

The loss left a bitter taste in the mouths of both teams, as it was clear that, given the conditions, neither team could play their best hockey.

With the outdoor season over the teams have moved inside, which should have given the rivals a chance to settle the score. But with UBC not sending a team to the tournament at UVic's Ian Stewart Complex on January 24–25, the battle will have to wait until the fall.

Nonetheless, the tournament will still bring some of B.C.'s best players to Victoria.

According to Vikes captain Gillian Batey, the indoor season is very different from the outdoor one.

"The indoor season is friendlier, it's more relaxed," says Batey.

There are also significant rule changes for the indoor season. Inside, the game is played on a gym floor, in an area the size of a basketball court. Boards just over a metre tall line the playing area and players can use the boards to bank the ball. The nets are also decreased in size, but not as dramatically as the playing surface.

"Indoor hockey is a great game for developing better ball control, tackling and scoring skills," says Lynne Beecroft, the team's coach.

Part of the friendlier aspect of the indoor season is that none of the results affect the CIS team rankings. Also, the tournaments include varsity and club teams.

Two Vikes standouts, Lauren MacLean and Sara Simpson, will be missing the tournament. Both are with the Canadian national team training for the Pan American games in Palo Alto California.

The Vikes will be playing another tournament in Duncan the weekend of Jan. 31. For more information on game times and locations visit www.uvic.ca/vikes

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Dixon slays records at Island championships

200 and 400 metre Individual Medley records fall to UVic swimmer in lead-up to University Championship

BY RICH COLE

UVic swimmer Stephanie Dixon shocked a crowded Commonwealth Place last weekend when she broke two World Records while only kicking with one foot.

Dixon smashed the 200 and 400 metre Individual Medley disabled world marks while swimming at the Vancouver Island Championship meet.

"I had some unbelievable swims," said Dixon of the meet. "Moments like this confirm that I've made the right decision of coming to train with UVic and PCS [Pacific Coast Swimming]."

Born with only one leg, the 19 year old Dixon made the move from Toronto to Victoria this September to start her University career and focus on her second Paralympics, in Athens this summer. Dixon won five metals at the 2000 Sidney Paralympics and there's no question she'll be a contender in the 2004 games.

But her goals extend beyond the world of disabled swimming, Dixon is also a strong competitor against able-bodied swimmers. "My ultimate goal is to get my national time," said the enthusiastic Dixon. A national time would give her a berth into the 2004 Canadian Olympic Trials.

By making the finals on both nights of the Championships this weekend, Dixon proved that a swimmer with only one leg could contend against Canada's elite athletes.

When asked about the physical benefits of her able-bodied competitors, Dixon was swift to point out that she's at a lesser disadvantage than most would think.

"Everyone's different and therefore everyone has their weaknesses," said the swimmer. "Some athletes are taller, some are shorter. While I could be faster with another leg, I've learned to adapt and focus on my strengths like everyone else."

And adapted she has.

The first-year psychology major not only made the Varsity team as a freshman, but she has also pre-qualified to represent UVic in the able-bodied Canadian Inter-University Sport Championships.

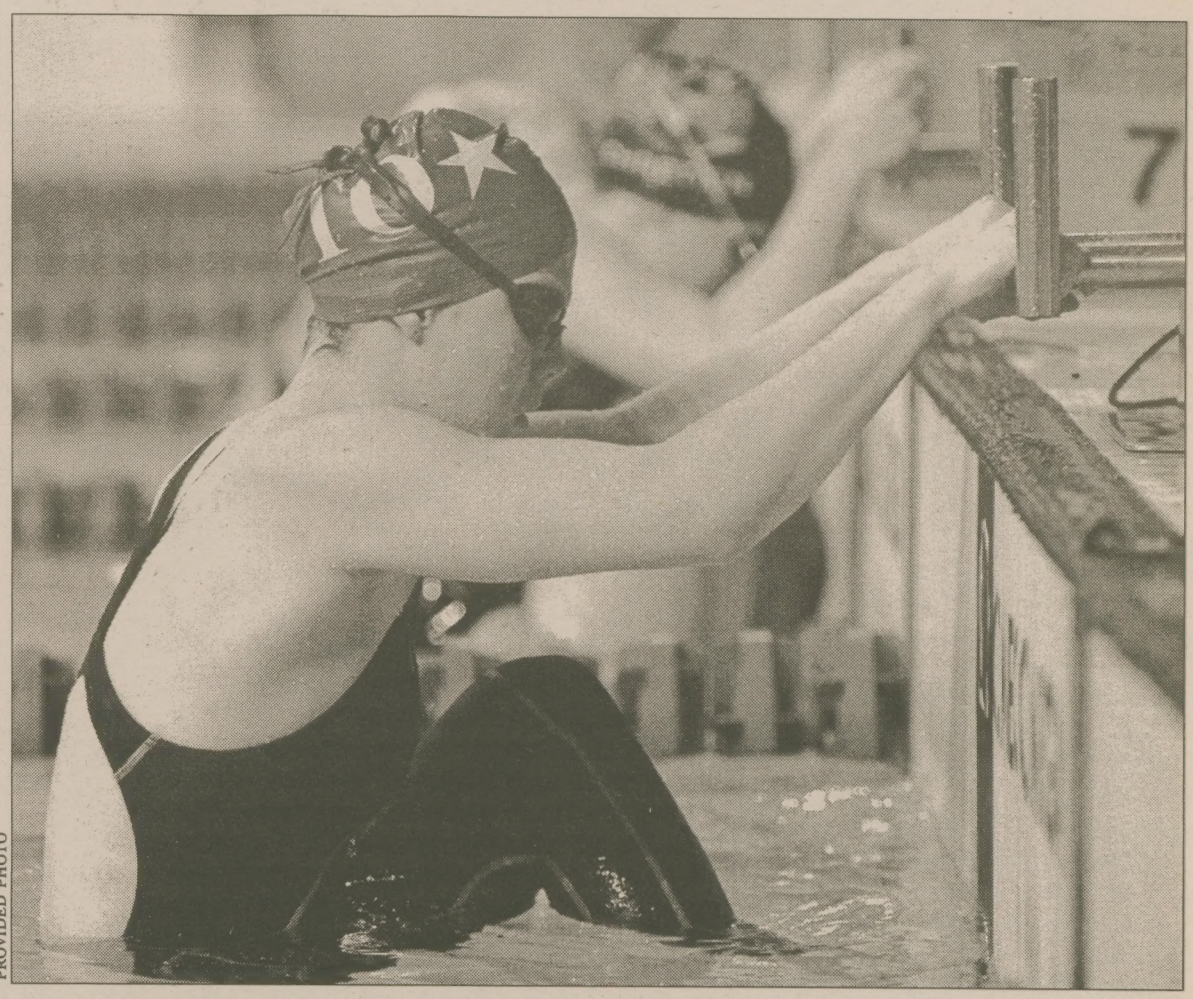
She's now training 20-plus hours a week with PCS's elite national group, working towards the Holy Grail in Canadian swimming: the national time.

The athlete credits her budding swimming career to her mother and father. "My parents put me in as many physical activities as they could when I was growing up," said Dixon.

From a young age, she learned to deal with her disability, and more importantly she learned that differences between people were universal.

"I'm different like anyone else," said Dixon. "My disability may be a bit more visible then the average person's, but I will accomplish anything I put my mind to."

You can watch Stephanie Dixon and the rest of the UVic-PCS team at the Canadian Western Inter-University Championships this weekend at Saanich Commonwealth Place. For more information visit www.pacificcoastswimming.com



PROVIDED PHOTO

UVic's newest world-record holder Stephanie Dixon prepares to kick off at the Vancouver Island Championships last weekend at Sannich Commonwealth Pool

University of Victoria Students' Society
Local 44 of the Canadian Federation of Students

Semi Annual General Meeting

Thursday, February 5th @ 11:30am in Cinecenta

Agenda

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA
   a. Adoption of agenda
      i. Agenda of 04/02/05 SAGM
3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES
   a. Adoption of minutes
      i. Minutes of 03/10/16 AGM
4. REPORTS
   a. Board of Directors Report
      i. Chairpersons Report
      ii. Report Director of Finance Report
      iii. Director of Services
      iv. Director of Academics Report
      v. Director at Large and Advocacy Representative Reports

Motion to adopt the report of the Board of Directors
BIRT the October 2003 report of the Board of Directors be adopted as presented.

5. QUESTION PERIOD (limit 30 minutes)
6. OTHER BUSINESS
7. NOTICE OF MOTION ANNOUNCEMENTS
8. ADJOURNMENT

It's Your Society - Have Your Say!
www.uvss.uvic.ca

Billboards

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On campus

The UVic SCUBA Club will be hosting an information session on freediving to take place at 6 p.m. on Wednesday Jan. 28 in room 061 of the Elliot building. This event will feature a film and presentation from members of the Canadian Association of Freediving and Apnea (CAFA) and members of the local freediving community. All are welcome.
For more information please contact David Bickle at dbickle@uvic.ca.

People, Poverty & God: a Christian discussion group which explores the connection between faith and social issues. Every Monday at the interfaith chaplaincy (beside the bookstore) at 2:30 p.m. Come and discuss. For more info contact April, aprilg@uvic.ca

Interested in gaining RESEARCH EXPERIENCE? Applied student research training projects that focus on child and adolescent health and well-being are now available. Projects are submitted by community agencies. Students complete research projects for experience, course credit and a $200 stipend. Please contact Leah Wilson at cormrc@uvic.ca or 721-7843.
www.youth.society.uvic.ca

Off campus

BLUEGRASS JAM, Tuesdays at the Orange Hall, 1620 Fernwood, 7:30 p.m. Players of all levels welcome. Players $2, listeners free. Contact: Larry Lawrence Statland 472-6483.

Pachanga Latina is Back…The ultimate Salsa dance party, Saturday Jan. 31, 8 p.m. till 1:00 a.m. @ The Ukrainian Cultural Centre 3277 Douglas Street. Free parking lot. Free Salsa dance class from 8 p.m. – 9 p.m. cover $8 pp.

Help wanted

Teach English in China – July
Room board, stipend. Information meeting Feb. 5 www.WeFocusOnResults.com.

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Interviewer will be on campus Monday March 1 – 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Student Union Building (SUB) – Michele Pujol Room.

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Volunteers wanted to act as conversation partners and activity leaders for international students. If interested, please send résumé or personal statement to cathy@cdncollege.bc.ca or fax 383-2292.

Announcements

Renée brings you a different source of insight. Tarot California–come to the SUB Monday Jan. 26 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. or by appointment, e-mail tarotcalifornia@yahoo.ca. Learn to read tarot by getting readings – it's easy.

The Senate Committee on the University Budget's 2003 Report and Summary of the Student Survey on barriers to Completion as approved at the Jan. 9, 2004 Senate meeting are available for viewing at the office of the University Secretary's website – web.uvic.ca/univsec/

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS! The Centre for Asia-Pacific Intiatives is seeking Graduate and Senior Undergradute students to present their research papers on topics related to the Asia-Pacific region in a SYMPOSIUM on Febuary 27 at UVic. Students interested inparticipating in this event must submit a 500 word abstract of their work, along with their name, email address, department, level and supervisor's name electronically to capi@uvic.ca or in hard-copy to Fraser Building, Room 131. The deadline for submissions to publicly share their work and to practice speaking in a symposium setting is Friday Jan. 2004.
For more information visit the CAPI website at: www.capi.uvic.ca.

Activist Video Night presents "Iraqi War UNCOVERED: The Whole Truth." How truth became the first casualty in Iraq. CIA, Pentagon and US foreign polict service experts speak out to expose the lies, disinformation and exaggerations that the Bush adminstration used to justify an illegal and immoral war. Friday, Jan. 30, 7:00 p.m. Camosun College, Fisher Bldg., room 100, FREE, info. 595-3991.

GOT SOME EXTRA TIME to help someone kick start an active lifestyle for the New Year? At Recreation Integration Victoria (RIV) we facilitate active lifestyles for people with disabilities. Here's your chance to get active and spend time with someone who enjoys the same activities as you do. RIV is looking for volunteers to provide one-to-one assistance for people with disabilities who would like to participate in a variety of recreational activities. To get involve or for more information, please call Dustin: 477-6314

Volunteers

Only top 12 applicants will be accepted to provide support and information as volunteers on our sexual assualt team. Training starts Feb 24th. Contact Tracey at the Women's Sexual Assault Centre 383-5545 or volunteers@vwsac.com.

Calling all groovesters!
Groovefest is an annual fundraiser that deconstructs valentine's day and mainstream beauty standards by celebrating sexuality, diversity and resistance. It's an anti-fashion show, an outlaw talent show, and a radical variety show. Groovefest needs a diverse group of volunteers, performers and models. In particular, we're looking for people of colour, aboriginal people, people of size, transgendered people, people with disabilities and queer people who want to get involved. If you're interested, please contact Rubina or Danielle at the women's centre (sub b107). Call 721-8353 or e-mail groovefest@riseup.net Get aboard the good ship groove!

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Hey you!

My dear today you are peanut butter on my toast, the zipper on my jeans, the colour of my yarn. I would write you letters in the phonetic alphabet, if I could. Nice slippers and ass. Love Sco.

I know what game you are trying to play and you're nor playing fair. Too challenging isn't any fun.

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Students and Clubs – $2/issue
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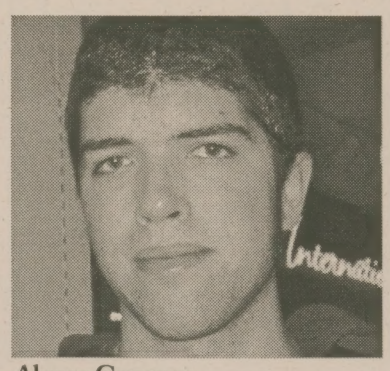
Businesses – $5.50/line for first 3 lines
+ $2/extra line
hey you! – free

on the spot

Answered by Graham Stark and Vanessa Neuman

Today's Question: We're uncreative this week, so *you* get to ask *us* a question! Now!



Alexey Gammer
Fine Arts

AG: How rigid exactly is your editing process?
VN: Rigid?
AG: Does your editor closely scrutinize your work? Does he have high standards?
GS: When he gets around to it.
(laughter)
VN: Good thing [the editor's] not going to be here this week!
GS: Ba-zing!

Jonny Morris
Child and Youth Care

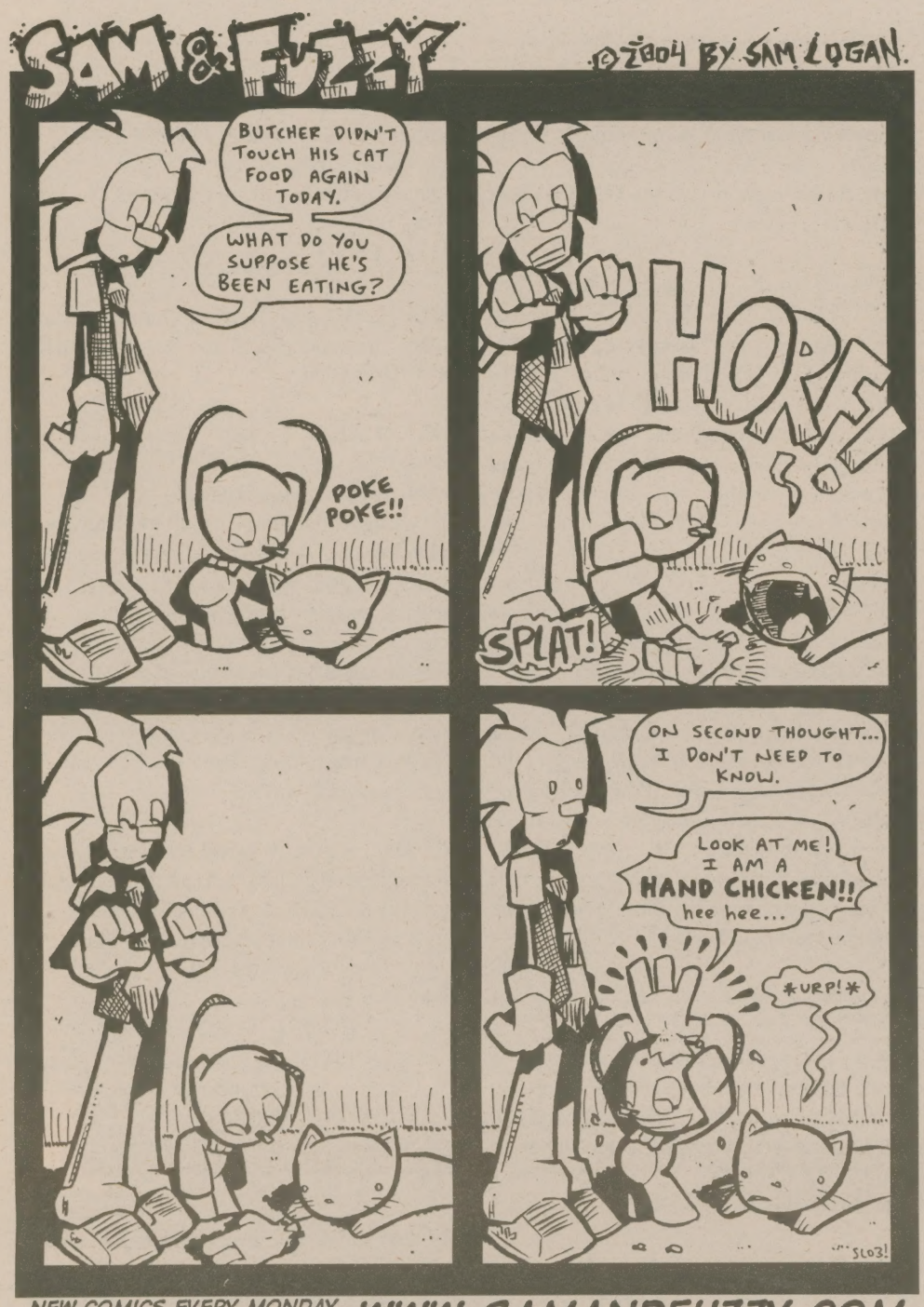
JM: Ask you a question? Oh my goodness… I'm not spontaneous am I?
VN: Any question.
JM: How many… wait, a question about you personally?
VN: *Any* question!
JM: Where was your first date?
GS: Junior prom.
VN: I don't remember… My first kiss was in the cloakroom in grade seven.
GS: oooooh

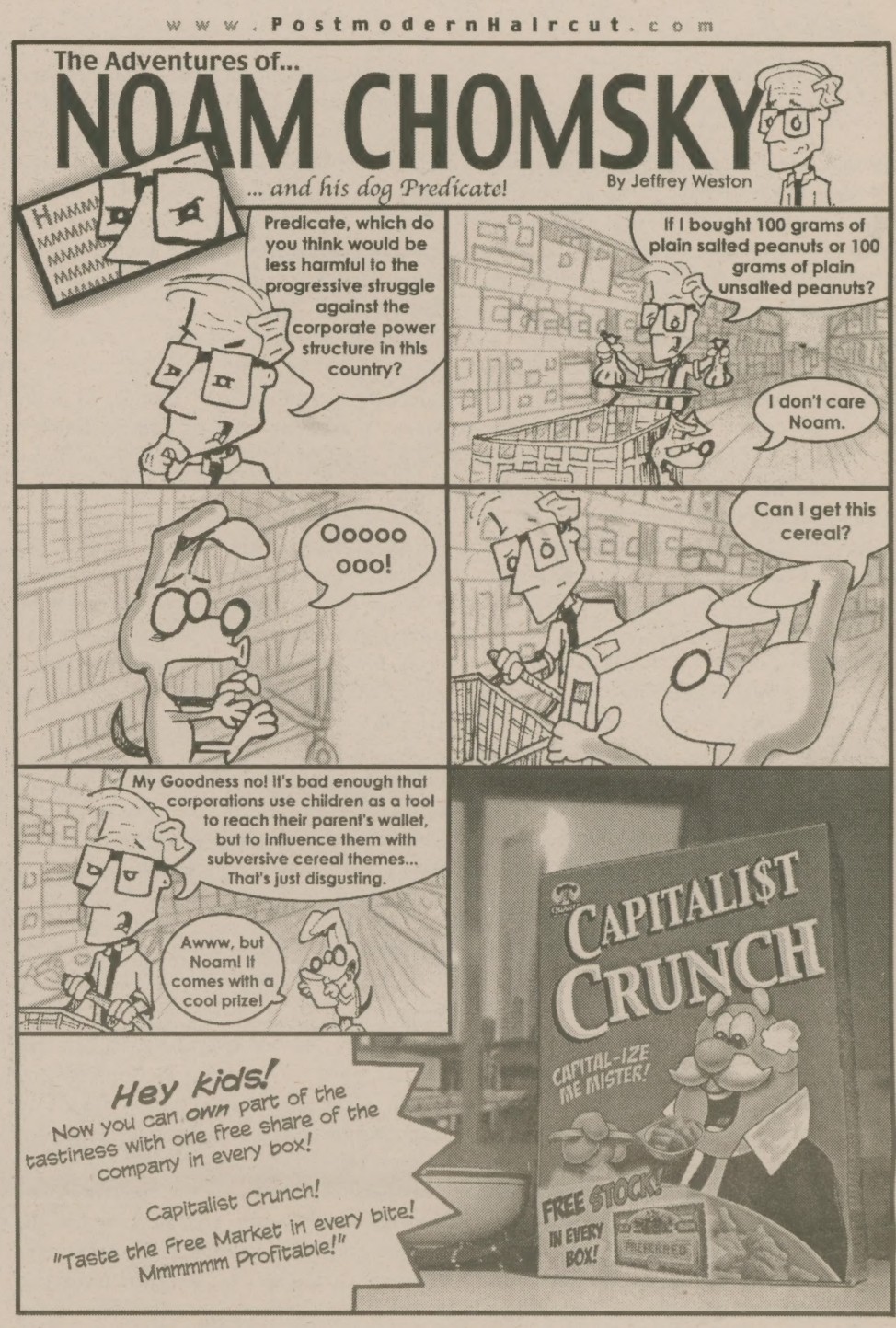
Jessica Stewart
Undecided

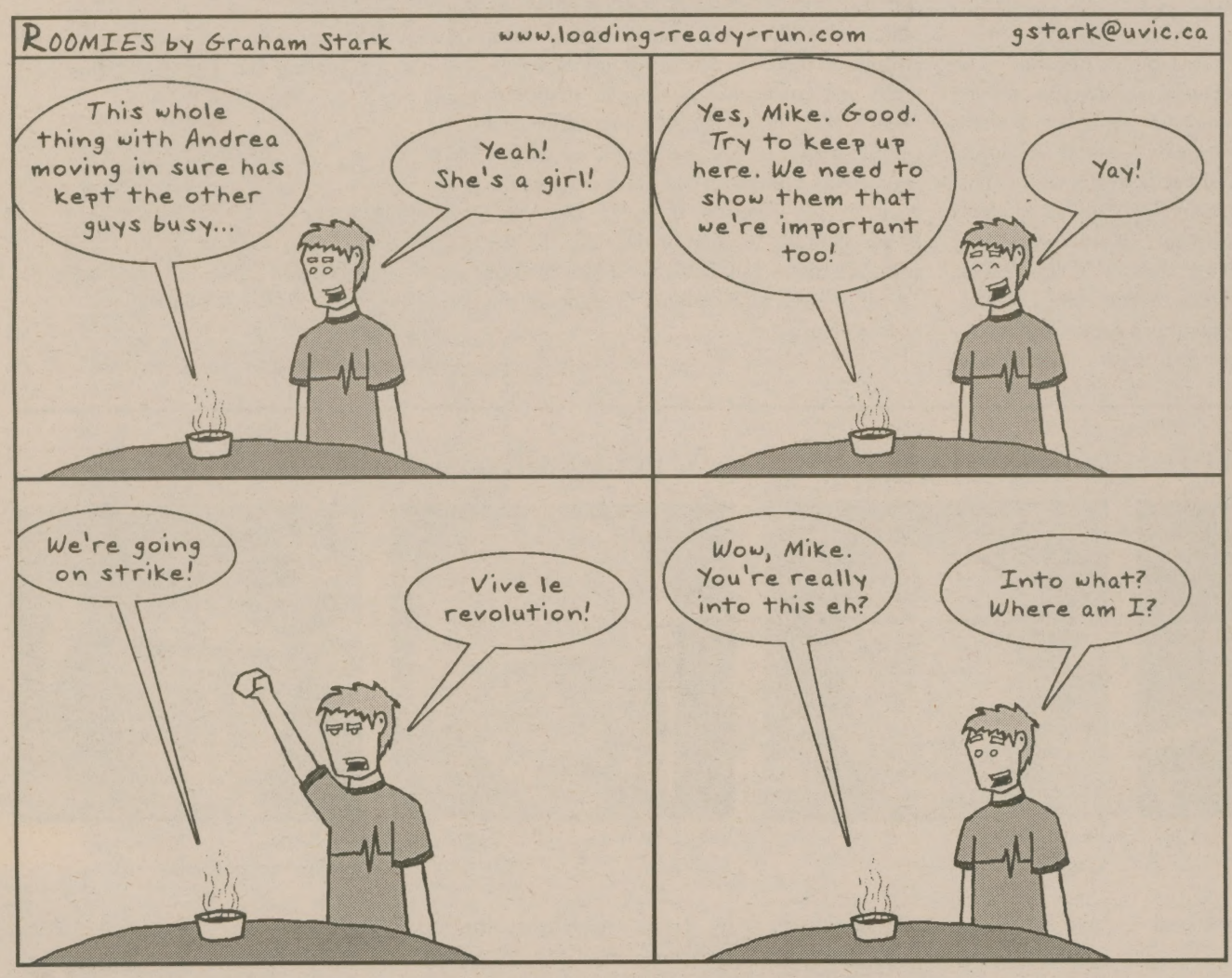
JS: If you could fly to the moon tomorrow, what five things would you take with you?
VN: Good question… an air supply, I think. It would be good.
GS: Is that a *record* by Air Supply? Or oxygen?
VN: Oxygen. Also, moon boots. I think that would be appropriate. And a cool looking spacesuit.
GS: How about a giant robotic exoskeleton?
VN: That could work.

Liz Reed
Environmental Studies

LR: What was your favourite Monty Python sketch?
GS: That's tricky…
LR: I'm fond of The Fish Slapping Dance.
GS: That is classic. I'd have to go with The Killer Joke.
VN: I think mine would be The Spanish Inquisition.
LR: Oh yes. *Nobody* expects the Spanish Inquisition.
(the conversation degrades into a valiant attempt at re-enacting the entire sketch)


SAM & FUZZY
©2004 BY SAM LOGAN.
BUTCHER DIDN'T TOUCH HIS CAT FOOD AGAIN TODAY.
WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE HE'S BEEN EATING?
POKE POKE!!
HORF!
SPLAT!
ON SECOND THOUGHT... I DON'T NEED TO KNOW.
LOOK AT ME! I AM A HAND CHICKEN!! hee hee...
URP!
SL03!
NEW COMICS EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY AT: WWW.SAMANDFUZZY.COM


www.PostmodernHaircut.com
The Adventures of...
NOAM CHOMSKY
... and his dog Predicate!
By Jeffrey Weston
Hmmmm mmmm mmmm
Predicate, which do you think would be less harmful to the progressive struggle against the corporate power structure in this country?
If I bought 100 grams of plain salted peanuts or 100 grams of plain unsalted peanuts?
I don't care Noam.
Ooooo ooo!
Can I get this cereal?
My Goodness no! It's bad enough that corporations use children as a tool to reach their parent's wallet, but to influence them with subversive cereal themes... That's just disgusting.
Awww, but Noam! It comes with a cool prize!
Hey kids!
Now you can own part of the tastiness with one free share of the company in every box!
Capitalist Crunch!
"Taste the Free Market in every bite! Mmmmmm Profitable!"
CAPITALI$T CRUNCH
CAPITAL-IZE ME MISTER!
FREE STOCK! IN EVERY BOX!


ROOMIES by Graham Stark
www.loading-ready-run.com
gstark@uvic.ca
This whole thing with Andrea moving in sure has kept the other guys busy...
Yeah! She's a girl!
Yes, Mike. Good. Try to keep up here. We need to show them that we're important too!
Yay!
We're going on strike!
Vive le revolution!
Wow, Mike. You're really into this eh?
Into what? Where am I?

REMEMBER

when you submitted comics to the Martlet?

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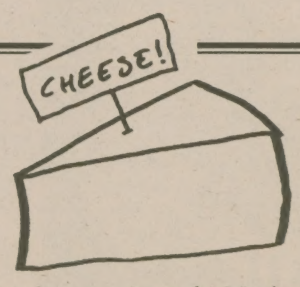
sub b011
photo@martlet.ca



(submit comics to the Martlet; I wasn't sure if I was clear earlier)